Local Scene
See what's going on!
Back Page

Saying goodbye
...to a *pickup truck*. 'My Back Pages', Page 2

Police log
returns next week. . .

THE NEWS-LEDGER

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40th Year ◆ No. 47 **Serving the West Sacramento Region Since 1964** **Wednesday, July 7, 2004**

BridgeFest '04

There were fireworks after dark.
But festivities, including food, games and music, began earlier along Stone Blvd. and the Daniel C. Palamidessi Bridge on Friday night, as the City and other sponsors celebrated the 'new' bridge and the Fourth of July.

Photos by Barry Blacklaw

New college site

By Steve Marschke
News-Ledger Editor

The West Sacramento Civic Center could be facing new neighbors.

Local developer Frank Ramos's company is negotiating to sell 2.5 acres of land near Merkley Avenue and West Capitol Avenue to Sacramento City College, and insiders say a deal is close. The college plans to use the site to replace a temporary campus now operating on Halyard Drive, and to consolidate with a downtown Sacramento branch of the college.

Spokesperson Dan Ramos of Ramco confirmed that the talks are advanced.

"The city college people are genuinely interested in the site, but it's not a done deal by any means," said Ramos. The parties have, he said, reached a broad agreement on terms.

The property lies across West Capitol Avenue from the civic center, and across Merkley Avenue from the City of Dharma Realm Buddhist monastery (formerly the El Ranch Hotel). Just to the site's west are both the current and planned future sites of the Yolo County library's local branch.

Between the potential college site and the civic center on the other side of West Capitol Avenue is a boulevard that may soon host a "transit" center. The center may serve as a hub for connecting commuter bus traffic – and in the longer run, as a light rail station.

November election:

Musical chairs for city council members?

By Steve Marschke
News-Ledger Editor

The filing period for those interested in running for a seat on either the school board or city council in West Sacramento begins Monday, and will last until August 6. Should a school board incumbent fail to file for reelection, the deadline for new board candidates will be extended to Aug. 11. Likewise, the deadline for new city council candidates will be extended to Aug. 11 if any council incumbent does not file for reelection.

The school board and council seats involve four-year terms.

This election will mark a turning point for West Sacramento city politics. Three incumbents – Bill Kristoff, Mark Montemayor and Oscar Villegas – are up for reelection, but only two of their seats will become available for the three (plus any challengers) to compete for. The third seat will disappear, giving way to a new, separate position of elected mayor.

That will leave the council with four seats with four-year terms – a pair to be elected every two years. The mayor will hold the fifth seat on the council.

The mayor's term will be two years, and the post will also be on the Nov. 2 ballot. Candidates may file for the post during the same period beginning Monday.

Should current mayor Christopher Cabaldon file for and win the mayor's race in November, he will leave vacant the final two years of his "regular" city council seat. That vacancy could then be filled by the council's appointment, or by their call for a special election, said City Clerk Helen Kanowsky yesterday.

The school board race is simpler.

Three incumbents will have their seats on the block for November 2. They are Karl Machschefes, Evelyn "Irene" Eklund and Pat Flint.

Also on the ballot will be a proposal to raise the city's hotel tax from 8% to 12%.

New youth commissioners sworn in

Kryss Rankin, executive assistant to West Sacramento City Manager Toby Ross, swears in the two newest members of the city's youth commission. They are Steven Macias, a ninth grader at River City High School, and Samantha Rankin, a seventh grader at Our Lady of Grace.

The pair were sworn in June 28 at the civic center following their appointment by Mayor pro tem Oscar Villegas. The commission aims to involve young people in local government and obtain their participation in matters affecting youth in the city.

From Dan Harris
City of West Sacramento

Arlington Oaks comes on board city sewer system

A plan to bring sewer service to a West Sacramento subdivision long-bypassed by sewer lines is complete.

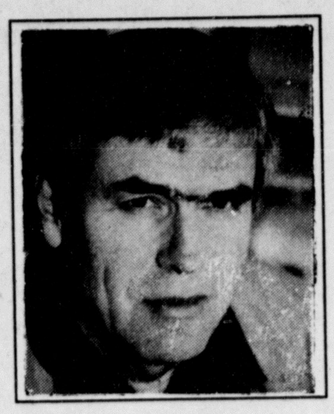
Citing health threats from septic tanks at the Arlington Oaks subdivision on Jefferson Blvd. north of Linden, city officials have pursued plans to bring in sewer lines for years. In 2002, the council approved a plan to impose liens of up to about $13,000 per home for the conversion. Some of the residents were also aided with grants and loans to aid the upgrade work.

The construction work was performed by Syblon Reid.

Including engineering and other costs, the project carried a $2.4 million price tag to bring sewer lines to the 217-parcel subdivision.

Confessions of an anthropomorphite

My Back Pages



By Daryl Fisher

Being anthropomorphic is defined in Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary as someone who "ascribes human characteristics to nonhuman things." In other words, someone who is anthropomorphic is most likely to be one taco short of a combination plate. And how do I know what an anthropomorphite (I think I may have just created a new word) is, you may ask? Well, I looked it up the other day, because a good friend of mine (I'll call him Steve) recently told me that is what I am.

"You are no such thing," my daughter recently assured me.

"Then why am I still attached to a 1993 Ford Ranger pickup truck that I sold almost a month ago?"

"Well," said my daughter sympathetically, "I don't exactly know the answer to that, but I want you to know that me and the rest of the family are here for you to help you work through it."

First some history. Eleven years ago I raided my little savings account and came up with enough money to buy myself a brand new little Ford Ranger pickup truck. Admittedly it wasn't much of a truck -- it was just a little stick shift with no air conditioning and was the farthest thing from a fully-loaded truck one could possibly imagine -- but it cost less than $10,000 and was just perfect for driving back and forth to work and cruising along the old River Road on my nightly ride.

Shortly after I purchased it, my brother and I decided to start painting a few houses every summer for extra money and my little Ford Ranger turned out to be perfect for that, too. I would throw all the ladders and paint and other needed equipment into the back and off we would go. And over time some paint from just about each job would somehow end up on the body of my truck and it got to the point where I actually kinda liked that. I would find myself looking at the kaleidoscope of colors on my little truck and recalling the many nice people I had met while painting their house. And I can still remember my youngest son (when I was explaining to him that my beloved truck would someday be his to drive) looking at me like I was nuts as I said to him, "Now see that brown color, that is what I used on Millie Novak's house -- and that dark green was the trim paint for Alma Soost's house -- and that really pretty red color was what I used last summer on my eighth grade teacher's (Mr. Lloyd) house."

"Well, Dad, just so you'll know, no way am I driving that old beat up paint truck when I get my license," he informed me.

"But it runs perfectly," I said.

"Maybe so," he said, "but just look at it! I couldn't get a girl to even get in it, much less go some place with me."

Anyway, to make a long story short, a few months ago -- with the long hot summer fast approaching and with my left leg getting much too old to keep pushing in a clutch -- I reluctantly decided it was time to get rid of my beloved Ford Ranger and get a new truck that at least had air conditioning and an automatic transmission. So I spent a couple of truly miserable weeks talking to car salesmen (there is no more unpleasant way to spend a few hours of one's day) and finally purchased a little Toyota truck that would meet my needs. But then I suddenly found myself face to face with the reality that since my youngest son wanted nothing to do with the Ranger -- now or in the future -- and since my wife was beginning to complain that the front of our house was starting to look like a parking lot, I would have to sell my faithful old companion to the highest bidder.

So I went online and found what a 1993 Ford Ranger in really good running condition was worth, deducted what it would cost the new owner to put a decent paint job on it, and made myself up a little "For Sale" sign -- which also had the words, "To a good home" on it.

Much to my good fortune, a really nice man (longtime West Sacramento resident Robert Luna) who owns and operates a barber shop just two doors down from where the *News-Ledger* is located, saw the "For Sale" sign and asked if he could take the Ranger for a little test drive. Fifteen minutes later he returned with a smile on his face, agreed with me that it ran perfectly, and said he would be glad to buy it. So not only did my little Ranger end up going to a good home, but Robert now often drives it to work and I get to see it most every day. Plus Robert somehow managed to come up with a magic potion that takes latex paint off vehicle paint and he now has the old Ranger looking almost brand new.

"See," said Steve the other day, "everything worked out just like you hoped it would. Plus I don't think you were really displaying anthropomorphic behavior over your truck because you never really gave it human attributes -- for instance, you never gave it a name, or something crazy like that."

"Of course not," I said to Steve, figuring he would never fully understand just how close me and "Ricky the Ranger" had become over the years.

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The News-Ledger was founded August 14, 1964. It is the successor to the *Weekly Reader*, founded by Julius A. Feher in April, 1938, and incorporates the *West Sacramento News*, founded by Julius A. Feher in August, 1942.

The News-Ledger is a weekly newspaper published every Wednesday. It provides coverage by mail and other distribution to the city of West Sacramento, including the communities of West Sacramento, Bryte, Broderick and Southport.

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Daryl Fisher,
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Richard Novoa,
Sports Correspondent
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Photographer
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News submissions: The *News-Ledger* welcomes information on local news and events. Please submit written news items to the below address by mail or in person, or through the office mail slot. News deadline is Friday before publication. Please include your name for attribution and your phone number in case we have any questions.

Opinion submissions: Letters to the Editor on topics of local interest are welcome. They must be signed, original, and must include the author's telephone number and address for verification. Letters should be brief and may be edited for length or objectionable or libelous content. Deadline is Friday before publication, and letters may be mailed or dropped off at the *News-Ledger* office.

Advertising: The deadline for classified advertisements is Monday at 5 p.m., and ads should be prepaid. An ad of up to 25 words costs $3.50, plus 10 cents for each additional word, per publication. Please mail ad and payment to the address below, or drop it off in the *News-Ledger* office or through the office mail slot.

Deadline for all other advertising is 5 p.m. on Friday. Please call 371-8030 for information on display advertising and advertising inserts.

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New at the library:

By Elise McCallan
Arthur F. Turner Branch Library
1212 Merkley Ave.
West Sacramento

The Arthur F. Turner Branch Library has received the following new books:

"The Memory Prescription: Dr. Gary Small's 14-Day Plan to Keep Your Brain and Body Young" by Gary Small, M.D.

"Ghost Ship: The Mysterious True Story of the Mary Celeste and Her Missing Crew" by Brian Hicks.

"The Sensory-Sensitive Child: Practical Solutions for Out-of-Bounds Behavior" by Karen A. Smith, Ph.D. and Karen R. Gouze, Ph.D.

"Grant and Twain: The Story of a Friendship That changed America" by Mark Perry.

"The Italian Boy: A Tale of Murder and Body Snatching in 1830's London" by Sarah Wise.

Call 375-6465 for information and library hours.

Obituaries

Willard Majors

Willard Majors was born on March 4, 1918 near Calvin, Oklahoma and died on July 3, 2004. He was a longtime resident of Bryte and West Sacramento. He is survived by his wife, Elexigth; his son, Dale; his brother, James; plus many cousins in the Majors and Douglas families across the United States.

Willard served in the 716th Light and Medium Tank Battalion with the Asian Pacific Operations freeing the Philippine Islands of Japanese occupation on Mindanao and Luzon during WWII. He was a member of Bryte VFW Post #9498.

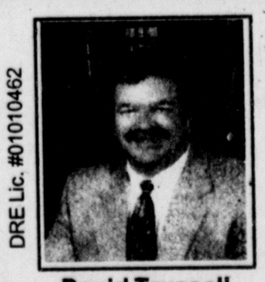
Before his retirement from the Teamsters Union he was the contractors, as well as government inspectors, highly sought "spreader man" on road surfacing projects throughout Northern California. Following retirement, he devoted his interests to and became an expert in gardening, rearing "turkhens", and fishing for striped bass and sturgeon.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the charity of your choice.

Please see OBITUARIES, p. 3

'The rest of the story'

Real Estate Prognosis Report


DRE Lic. #01010462
David Trussell

We will continue to see strong economic growth and a healthy real estate market at least through year 2006. Mortgage interest rates will continue to climb, but only modestly. That's the consensus opinion of most experts at this point.

"With strong economic growth expectations, interest rate increases will be modest due to continued low inflation," said Doug Duncan, MBA's chief economist.

"With inflation under control in the presence of a growing economy, the 30-year mortgage rate will rise to slightly more than 7 percent by the end of the three-year forecast period. From a historical perspective, these are very modest interest rate increases for the level of economic growth we are expecting, and should cause few adjustment problems for the housing industry."

Home prices are expected to continue increasing, with prices of existing homes increasing by 4.5 percent this year (nationally), and new home prices rising by 0.7 percent. Price increases next year and in 2006 are expected to be in the 4 percent range. There are, of course, some markets where prices are rising at a much greater rate than national averages.

David Trussell
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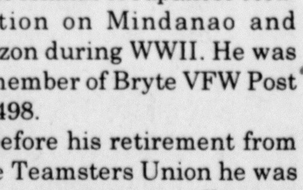
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'Across the Bridge':

Events around the region

Folsom quilting exhibit

The 24th Annual Antique Quilt and Vintage Clothing Show will be held from August 1 through September 30. This year's theme is "A Daughters Trousseau" highlighting the history of the double wedding ring quilt. The show will feature more than 40 antique quilts and accessories typical of a wedding and household trousseau.

The Folsom History Museum is located at 823 Sutter Street and will be open daily during August and September, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 985-2707.

Scout Day at the Sacramento Zoo

August 7th is Scout Day with free admission to each Boy Scout or Girl Scout in uniform with one paid adult admission. The Sacramento Zoo is located near the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 264-5888.

Genealogy society meets

The next meeting of the Sacramento German Genealogy Society will be on July 27th at 1 p.m. at St. Mark's United Methodist Church on Lusk Drive at St. Mark's Way in Sacramento. The speaker will be Jim Rader who will present "DNA and its relation to family history research." Meetings are free and visitors are welcome. For more information, call 872-5704.

Puppet festival

Beginning May 1st, Tuesdays through Sundays, puppets will take the stage at Fairytale Town's annual Puppet Festival, featuring ten weeks of imaginative entertainment for all ages. For more information on performance themes and times, call 264-5233. Tickets for these performances are only $1 for non-members. Fairytale Land in located at 3901 Land Park Drive in Sacramento.

Dude ranch visits

If you are planning a vacation for yourself or your family, visiting a dude ranch might be just what you're looking for. For information you can visit www.duderanch.org or contact The Dude Ranchers' Association, PO Box 2307, Cody, WY 82414 for a free directory of over 100 dude ranches in 12 western states and two Canadian provinces.

Folsom History Museum exhibit

From March 20th to July 18th the Folsom History Museum will feature an exhibit about the Portuguese population of the Sacramento area from the earliest immigration in the 1850s to the present. The museum is located at 823 Sutter Street in Folsom. For more information call 985-2707.

Farm sanctuary opens

Farm Sanctuary, America's premier farm animal shelter, will begin its 2004 season on April 3rd. Visitors will have an opportunity to meet hundreds of rescued farm animals. Tours will be conducted every hour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays through the end of November.

From I-5, take the Orland exit marked Chico/CA-32. Turn west off the freeway. Travel approximately nine miles and you'll see the farm sanctuary on the right at 19080 Newville Road.

Alzheimer's society meets

The Alzheimer's Aid Society of Northern California Support Group for the Memory Impaired will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday in July at 10:30 a.m. at the Alzheimer's Aid Society Office, 2641 Cottage Way, Suite #4 in Sacramento. For more information on other related groups and meetings, call 448-7001.

Widowed persons meet

The Widowed Persons Association of California encourages widowed men and women to come to Sunday Support get-togethers each Sunday from 3-5 p.m. at the Widowed Persons Association office, located at 2628 El Camino Avenue, Suite D-18.

Activities include bowling, brown bag opera, needle and thread, breakfasts, dinners, golf, card games, dancing and traveling. For more information, call 972-9722.

Now here's a tip!

by Jo Ann Derson

• To extend the life of children's footed pajamas, just cut off the foot portion. Oftentimes, it is the child's height that is the problem. With the feet cut off, you can usually get at least another month or two out of the clothes.

• "For fruits and vegetables that I have bought but are getting close to being spoiled, I just cut them up and freeze them for use in smoothies or stews. It really is better than wasting them, and the frozen fruit really gives my smoothies more flavor and texture." — S.P. in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

• "Toothpaste can polish silver. Make sure it is just regular toothpaste, though. Not anything with added whiteners or such." — J.R. in Appleton, Wisc.

• "I travel a lot on business, so here's my hint for travelers: When flying to foreign countries or other places where access to laundry facilities will be delayed for several days, I always wear old, worn-out socks, undershirt and undershorts that I'm about to throw out. That way, when I land and get checked in at a hotel (or campsite without running water), I can just throw the soiled undergarments away and start FRESH with the clean clothes I've packed. This also leaves a little extra room in my bags on the return trip for souvenirs. That's it! Praise holey underwear!" — Matthew in Orlando, Fla.

OBITUARIES from p. 2

Marilyn L. Mockley

Marilyn Mockley passed away in West Sacramento on June 25, 2004 at the age of 78. She was the beloved wife of the late Bob Mockley; the dear mother of Robert (Elizabeth) Mockley; the loving sister of Patty Stump; and the devoted grandmother of Jordan and Madison Mockley. She was a resident of West Sacramento for over 40 and retired after 27 years of service to the Sacramento Valley Insurance Company. She was also an avid Oakland A's fan.

A private celebration will be held by her family at a later date. Private inurnment will be in Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, California.

Yolobus To Sac. 371-2877 Airport

Sports QUIZ

by Chris Richcreek

1. When was the last time before 2003 that the National League batting champion came from a team in a division other than the N.L. West?
2. Name the pitcher who led the American League in walks allowed, wild pitches and hit batsmen in 2003.
3. When was the last time before the 2002-03 seasons that Oklahoma State made consecutive bowl-game appearances?
4. Who was the last player before Jermaine O'Neal in 2002-03 to average 20 points and 10 rebounds a game for a season for the Indiana Pacers?
5. Tampa Bay and Calgary met in the NHL's Stanley Cup Final this year. Did both teams make the playoffs in 2003?
6. Name three players who have won European Player of the Year in men's soccer three times each.
7. Who was the first non-Kentucky-born horse to win horse racing's Triple Crown?

Answers on back page

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SERENITY! Lovely yard with roses, fruit trees and covered patio. 3 bdrms, 2 baths, built in 2001 in great West Sacramento location! 2225 Hearst St., $330,000. Call Vicki Thompson, (530) 219-4364.

GREAT INVESTMENT PROPERTY or first-time buyers! 4 bedrooms, 2 bath home with updated kitchen & baths, huge bonus room, single-car garage & store room too. Don't miss this opportunity! $275,000, 805 Julian St., Call Perry & Jina Palamidessi, (916) 425-1270.

BETTER THAN NEW. Beautiful Bridgeway Island home is perfect for entire family. Bathroom add-on with wood floors, faux wood blinds and fiber on decking in backyard. Priced to sell fast! $334,900, 3413 Molokai Rd. Call Chris Palamidessi, (916) 834-7003.

ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS 3 bdrm + den, 2 bath home built in 2001 and loaded with special features including upgraded carpet, Baldwin brass hardware & cabinet pulls, custom ceiling fans, gorgeous landscaping and much more! $370,000. Call Jina & Perry Palamidessi (916) 425-

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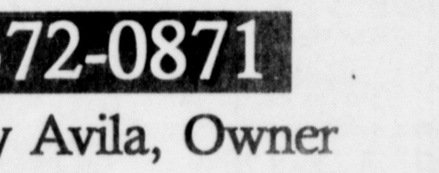


Chris Palamidessi 376-8003 | Jina & Perry Palamidessi 376-8002 | Levi Benkert 284-0050
Jim Piatt, Sr. 375-1122 | Janet Friesinger 376-8015 | Megan Straws 798-3364
Debbie Bair 802-8447 | Terrell Lowery 849-3689 | Vicki Thomson 376-8011

FEATURED HOMES:

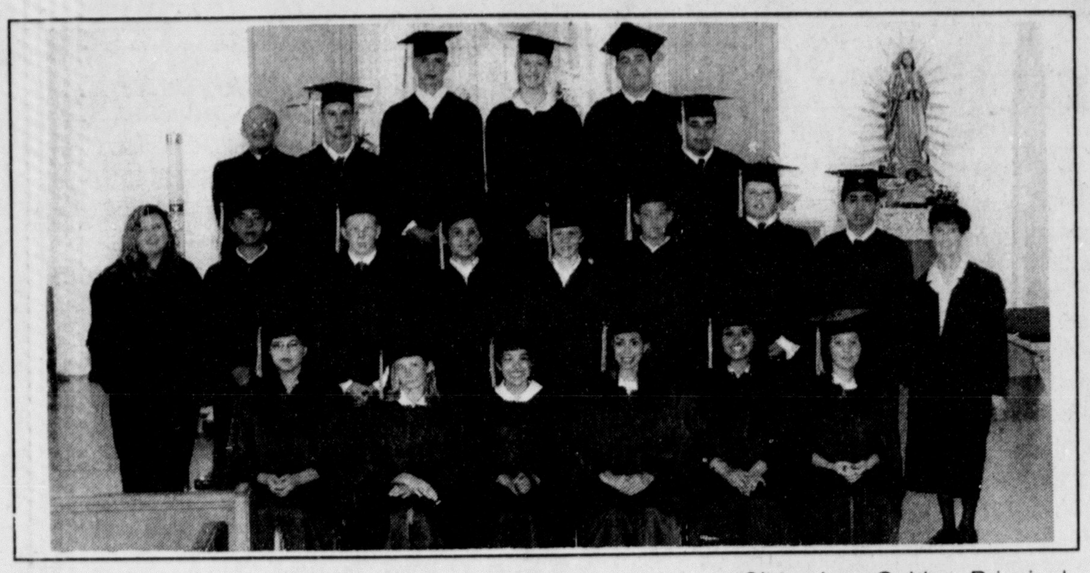
REMARKABLE REMODEL! Cute in 1953, now a showplace! This 3 bedroom, 1 bath home has new stucco, tile roof, gas fireplace, maple cabinets, lots of tile, crown molding & more! Huge yard, stone waterfall, play structure & fabulous covered patio! 1904 Aster Ave., $265,000. Jina & Perry 425-1270.

A TRUE BEAUTY in heart of Bridgeway Island! 4bd/2ba with upgraded tile counters, appliances, ceiling fans & built-in surround sound. Tasteful landscaping! Won't last. $340,000, 3495 China Hat Island Rd. Call Terrell Lowery, (916) 849-3689.

WONDERFUL single-story 3 bdrms + den, 2 bath Seeno home with 3-car garage. Loaded with features including upgraded kitchen, spacious family room with huge media niche, lovely master suite & play structure for kids! 1664 Lemontree Rd., $385,000. Call Jina & Perry Palamidessi, (916) 425-1270.

IMMACULATE! this home has upgraded carpet & kitchen appliances, Prego floors, custom paint, crown molding & finished garage. $320,000, 3172 Midway Island. Call Terrell Lowery, (916) 849-3689.

LOCATION! Fabulous 3 bed, 2 bath home with 3-car garage. Oak & tile kitchen, master suite with retreat & lovely backyard! $355,000, 2909 Kathy Circle. Jina & Perry Palamidessi (916) 425-1270.



Holy Cross graduates

Above is the Holy Cross School graduating class of 2004. From left to right, bottom to top row are:

1st row: Ananita Gonzalez, Michelle Savage-Klith, Vanessa Lara, Courtney Chairez, Aenaida Reyes and Keegan Burdette.

2nd row: Ms. Bauer, teacher; Joey Brown, Anthony Tipton, James Face, Joshua Foster, Esteban Sarille, Michael Meehan, Hammad Khan and Sister Jane Golden, Principal.

3rd row: Father Chad Puthoff; Trevor Haugen, Justin Demianew, Ariel Gregersen, Anthony Garfio and Daniel Rodriguez.

In local government

The **West Sacramento City Council** will meet tonight in public session at 7 p.m. at city hall, 1110 West Capitol Avenue. Among the agenda items are:

Approval of improvement agreements for parks within Bridgeway Lakes; final map for Newport Estates Unit 7; acceptance of Arlington Oaks Sanitary Sewer Installation project; easement at Sam Combs Park for pipeline pathway; approval of development agreement for Ironworks I & II housing projects near Raley Field; contract for services with Chamber of Commerce; regulatory agreement for Capitol Place Apartments near Sacramento Avenue and Douglas Street; contract with county to manage the city's November election process.

The school board of the **Washington Unified School District** will meet in open session at 7 p.m. Thursday at the civic center, 1110 West Capitol Avenue.

Among the agenda items:

School site plan, joint use of property with city, construction contracts for Bridgeway Elementary Phase 2.

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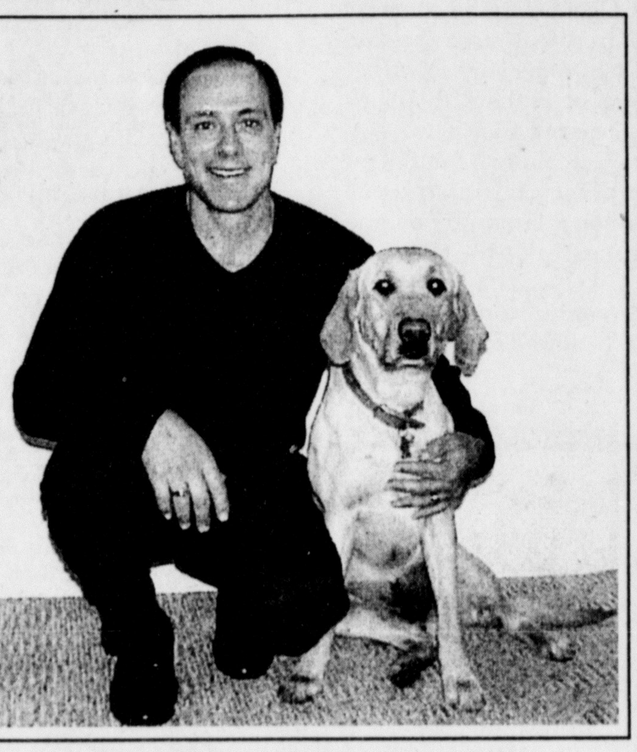

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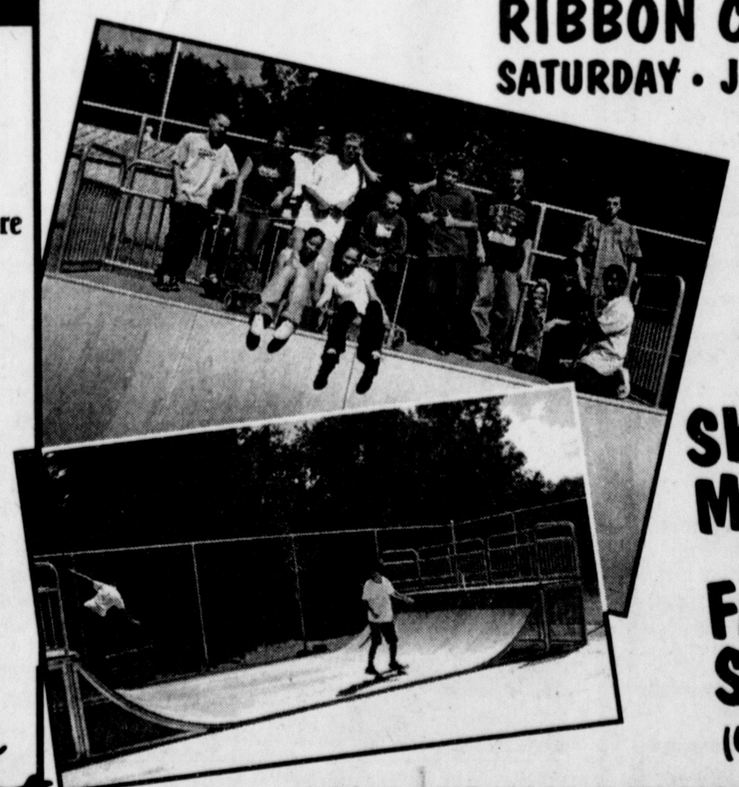

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LITERATURE: Who wrote "Rip Van Winkle" and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many sides does a typical snowflake have?
3. PERSONALITIES: What was singer/entertainer Tiny Tim's real first name?
4. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What animal is known as the "ox of Asia"?
5. COMICS: Which super hero's alter ego was Diana Prince?
6. LANGUAGE: What is regicide?
7. MOVIES: What was the name of Lauren Bacall's debut movie?
8. GEOGRAPHY: What state lies directly south of Minnesota?
9. PHYSICS: What is defined as how an object changes position with time?
10. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president was the first to declare Thanksgiving a national holiday?

Answers

1. Washington Irving
2. Six
3. Herbert
4. Yak
5. Wonder Woman
6. Killing a king
7. "To Have and To Have Not"
8. Iowa
9. Velocity
10. Abraham Lincoln

Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It seems that sometimes it just doesn't pay to be a good Samaritan. A man who was driving on an expressway in Holland felt so bad when he ran over a rabbit that he pulled off at the next exit and walked back to help the injured animal. Unfortunately, before he could reach the rabbit, he was struck and killed by a car coming in the opposite direction.

• You even have taste buds on the roof of your mouth.

• It was Lettice Philpots who observed, "The trouble with being punctual is that no one's there to appreciate it."

• For the first 20 years that Wrigley was in operation, the company didn't make its own gum — it contracted the work out to others.

• Have you ever heard of "pygoméle"? Probably not — it's an extremely rare medical condition. The record at hand mentions only one sufferer: an Italian man named Francesco A. Lentini, who was born in 1889. He had two normal legs, but also had a third leg growing out of his buttocks. Until age 6, he was able to use all three legs for walking and running, but the growth of his normal legs eventually outpaced that of the extra limb, causing the foot of his third leg to be 3 inches off the ground. Even as an adult, though, he was able to move the leg with enough control and coordination to kick a football.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 2004-16520744 Loan No. 0016520744 Title Order No. 2158033 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 11/13/2001. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: MICHAEL S. MEEKER, AN UNMARRIED MAN Duly Appointed Trustee: GOLDEN WEST SAVINGS ASSOCIATION SERVICE CO., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION Recorded 11/20/2001 as Instrument No. 2001-0042196-00 in book , page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of YOLO County, California, Date of Sale:07/28/2004 at 12:00 PM Place of Sale: AT THE REAR (NORTH) ENTRANCE TO THE CITY HALL BUILDING, 1110 WEST CAPITOL AVE, WEST SACRAMENTO, CA Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: $286,472.90 Street Address or other common designation of real property is purported to be.: 2964 CARMEL COURT WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691 A.P.N.: 046-304-07-1 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. Date: June 18, 2004 AGENCY SALES AND POSTING As agent for GOLDEN WEST SAVINGS ASSOCIATION SERVICE CO., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION 8801 FOLSOM BLVD, SUITE 230 SACRAMENTO, CA 95826 Telephone Number: (800) 840-8547 Sale Status Line: (916) 387-7728 Nett Sanders, Assistant Secretary ASAP598603 7/7, 7/14, 7/21

LEGAL NOTICE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors will be conducting a public hearing on Tuesday, July 20, 2004 beginning at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 625 Court Street, Room 206, Woodland, California.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider amendments to the Master Fee Resolution concerning building division fees, new fees for code enforcement, and a general plan cost recovery fee for fiscal year 2004-2005. To the extent required by Government Code Section 66016, data is available indicating the amount of cost, or estimated cost, required to provide the services for which the fees are charged.

All interested parties are invited to attend the meeting and provide any comments that they believe are appropriate. Written comments may be mailed to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at 625 Court St., Room 204, Woodland, CA 95695. Written comments should be mailed so that they are received by July 16, 2004.

Dated: July 2, 2004
PATTY CRITTENDEN,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
BY: Ana Morales, Deputy Clerk
July 7 14

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The West Sacramento City Council will conduct a public hearing on July 2114, 2004 at 7:30 PM or as soon thereafter as possible on the following. The hearing will be held in the council chambers at the Civic Center, 1110 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento. Interested persons are invited to attend. In compliance with the ADA, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, you should contact the City Clerk at 617-4500. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting. City hall is handicapped accessible.

1. To consider various actions pertaining to the formation of CFD No. 20 (Bridgeway Lakes II), including adoption of Resolutions 04-58 and 04-59; and first reading of Ordiannce 04-12 authorizing a special tax within CFD No. 20.
2. Community Development Block Grant – eligible activities for 200405, annual performance reports for open and closing grants, amendment to program increase re-use plan; approval of the First Time Homebuyer Guidelines, and transfer funds from Grants Revolving Loan Funds.
3. Appeal of the Planning Commission denial of the Linden Cottages & Linden Cove Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #4628 and Planned Development Permit (TSM 03-07 & PDF 04-01). Forecast Homes seeks approval of a Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map (VTSM) and a Planned Development Permit on approximately 23.34 acreas located south of Linden Road, east of the Yolo Shortline and east of Mojave Drive. The VTSM proposes to create 179 single- family housing types on the project site. Sixty eight of the lots will include traditional single-family homes; the remaining 111 lots will include single-family homes located on lots with a "Z" configuration. These lots will be 34'x40' at the shortest end with a depth of 50' at the longest end. The homes on these lots will include "cottage" housing ranging in size from 754 square feet to 1,1516 square feet. The houses will not have garages; parkingwill be provided in parking spaces and carports. The property is zoned R-2 (One Family or Multiple Family Residential). A MND has been prepared on the project. Owner: Iwasaki Family. Applicant: K. Hovanian Forecast Homes.

July 7

Public Hearing Notice

The West Sacramento City Council will conduct a public hearing on July 21, 2004 at 7:00pm (or as soon thereafter as possible) to discuss the following:

1. The City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The public hearing will encompass a review of the City's Revolving Loan Funds (RLFs) and take citizen comments on the proposed use of grant funds for the Fiscal Year 2004-2005; and
2. Annual performance reports for open/closing grants and revolving loan funds include: the General and Economic Development Revolving Loan Funds; and CDBG Grants #02-STBG-1731 and #03-STBG-1856, both $500,000 grants for the payment of sewer assessments for the Arlington Oaks Sewer Installation Project; and
3. Amendments to the City's CDBG Re-Use Plan; and
4. Approval of First Time Homebuyer Guidelines for CDBG; and
5. Transfer of Funds From Grants and Revolving Loan Funds

The City operates the CDBG program with grants from the Small Cities CDBG program funded through the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The City is eligible for a maximum award of up to $800,000 per year or $1.2 million in any two consecutive years from the General and Economic Development Set-Asides combined. No one grant contract may exceed $500,000 in any year. Grants up to $35,000 per year from the General Planning and Technical Assistance allocation and $35,000 per year for Economic Development Planning and Technical Assistance allocation may be awarded and do not count toward the $800,000 cap.

The five major activity categories are Housing-New Construction, Housing-Rehabilitation, Community Facilities/Public Services, Public Works and Economic Development activities. Projects funded with CDBG funds must carry out at least one of three national objectives: benefit to Targeted Income Group (TIG) persons, elimination of slums and blight and meeting urgent community development needs. Neither the City nor the State of California discriminates on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex or disability.

Interested persons are invited to attend. The hearing will be held at the City of West Sacramento Civic Center, second floor, 1110 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, California 95691. In compliance with the ADA, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, you should contact the City Clerk at 916/617-4500. Notification of 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting. The Civic Center is handicapped accessible.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, you may direct written comments to the City of West Sacramento prior to the date of the hearing, July 21, 2004, at the City of West Sacramento, Grants and Community Investment, 1110 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, CA 95691. Information may be obtained or a public file on CDBG activities may be reviewed at the above address between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm on weekdays. You can also reach the Grants and Community Investments Department by telephone (916/617-4555) or email at gci@ci.west-sacramento.ca.us.

July 7

Aviso de Audiencia Pública

El Consejo Municipal de West Sacramento ofrecerá una audiencia pública el 21 de Julio del 2004 a las 7:00 p.m. (o lo más pronto posible) para discutir lo siguiente:

1. El Programa de Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) de la Ciudad. La audiencia pública abarcará una revisión de los presupuestos de los fondos de préstamo de rotación (FPR) y recibir comentarios de los ciudadanos sobre el uso propuesto de fondos para el año fiscal 2004-2005; y
2. Reportes de Desempeño Anuales para concesiones actuales/concluidas y fondos de préstamo de rotación incluyen: Fondos de Préstamo de Rotación Generales y de Desarollo Económico; y Concesiones de CDBG #02-STBG-1731 y #03-STBG-1856, ambas concesiones de 500,000 dólares para pagar valoraciones para el Proyecto de Instalación de Alcantarilla en Arlington Oaks; y
3. Enmienda al Plan de Re-uso de fondos CDBG de la Ciudad; y
4. Aprobación del Guía para el Programa de Comprador de Casa por Primera Vez; y
5. Transferéncia de fondos de concesiones y fondos de préstamo de rotación

La Ciudad opera el programa de CDBG con concesiones del Programa CDBG para Ciudades Pequeñas del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarollo Económico del Estado de California. La Ciudad es elegible a recibir una concesión máxima de 800,000 dólares por año o 1.2 millones de dólares en dos años consecutivos de fondos asignados para proyectos Generales y de Desarollo Económico. Ningun contrato de concesión puede exceder 500,000 dólares por año. Concesiones de hasta 35,000 dólares por año asignados a la Planificación General y Asistencia Técnica y concesiones de 35,000 dólares por año asignados a la Planificación de Desarollo Económico y Asistencia Técnica podrán ser otorgados y no contar al limite de 800,000 dólares.

Las cinco categorías principales del programa CDBG son Construcción de Viviendas Nuevas, Rehabilitación de viviendas, Instalaciones Sociales/Servicios Públicos, Proyectos Públicos y actividades de Desarollo Económico. Los proyectos financiados con fondos CDBG deben estar relacionados con uno de los tres objetivos nacionales: beneficiar al grupo de personas con ingresos de meta, eliminación de áreas arruinadas o en deterioro y necesidades urgentes de desarollo de la comunidad. La Ciudad de West Sacramento ni el Estado de California discrimina contra cualquier persona por razón de su raza, color, religión, origen nacional, sexo o incapacidad física o mental.

Invitamos a todas la personas interesadas asistir a la audiencia pública. La audiencia se llevará acabo en el segundo piso del Centro Cívico de la Ciudad de West Sacramento, 1110 West Captiol Ave., West Sacramento, CA 95691. De acuerdo con la ley ADA, si necesita asistencia para participar en la audiencia comuníquese con el secretario del Ayuntamiento al 916-617-4500. Se solicita que personas con incapacidades notifiquen a la Ciudad con 72 horas de anticipación para que la Ciudad haga arreglos razonables para asegurar el acceso a la audiencia. El Centro Cívico es accesible a personas con incapacidades.

Si no puede asistir a la audiencia pública, puede mandar comentarios por escrito a la Ciudad de West Sacramento antes de la fecha de la audiencia, 21 de Julio del 2004, a la siguiente dirección: City of West Sacramento, Grants and Community Investment, 1110 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, CA 95691. Se puede obtener información o revisar archivos públicos sobre las actividades CDBG en la dirección mencionada de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. de Lunes a Viernes. También puede cominicarse con el Departamento de Grants and Community Investment por teléfono al 916-617-4555 o por correo electrónico a gci@ci.west-sacramento.ca.us.

July 7

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

A Negative Declaration has been prepared for the Guynn Tentative Parcel Map No. 4709 on 9.3 acres located at the northwest intersection of Jefferson Blvd. and Bevan Road (APNs 46-180-02, -03). The tentative parcel map proposed to create three single-family residential lots from two underlying parcels. The lots would be served by on-site wells and on-site sewage disposal systems. An existing 40-foot wide canal easement across proposed Parcel A is proposed to be abandoned. The subdivider also proposes to abandon the partition of the Seymour Avenue along the eastern edge of the tentative map boundary. Lastly, a 26-foot wide access easement is proposed across Parcel B for benefit of Parcel A.

The Negative Declaration concludes that with the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, there will be no significant adverse impacts on the environment. Copies of the Negative Declaration are on file in the office of the West Sacramento Community Development Department at 1110 West Capitol Avenue, 2nd Floor, West Sacramento, CA 95691 (916-617-4645).

Any affected or interested parties may submit comments to the Community Development Department no later than July 26, 2004. Any affected or interested parties may also appear at the August 5, 2004 Planning Commission meeting and comment on the Negative Declaration and/or the proposed project.

The West Sacramento Planning Commission will consider adoption of the Negative Declaration on August 5, 2004 in the City Council Chambers located at 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, California, at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. Please contact the Community Development Department to confirm the meeting date, time, and location.

July 7

Jim Piatt Sr. & Debbie Bair
Your father-daughter team
1102 Jefferson Blvd. Suite D
West Sacramento, CA 95691
email: jpiatt@golyon.com
email: dbair@golyon.com
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jk37tfn

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46

PENDING SALE

WOW! What a Value! Check out this fully-loaded 3 bdrm, 2 full bath home with over 1500 sq ft of living space, featuring 2 master bedrooms. Also new exterior paint, whole house fan, on-demand hot water, vinyl windows, plantation shutters. Don't miss seeing this home before you buy. $264,950. 1516 Parkside Property. For pics & info, go to: www.jeffpuliz.com. Jeff Puliz, Parkside Property (916) 373-9600.
46tfn

PERFECT HOME: Southport, 3648 Tortola Rd. Will be sold in 10 days, so stop by soon! Under 2 yrs old, Bridgeway Island, over 1600 sq ft, 3 bdrms, 2 full baths, 2-car garage, living rm fireplace, big kitchen w/granite counters, built-in microwave, gas range, double kitchen sink, big rooms, spacious home. All at low price of $349,600. Financing avail with no-money down with OAC. Get your new home now - - why wait? JOHN KANE, 373-5300, 'Your Southport Specialist.' Kane Realty in West Sacramento: Smallest office in town, with the biggest heart.
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PRICE INFLATED? Not here! this 3 bdrm, 2 full-bath home is in desirable State Streets. Almost 2100 sq ft with updated kitchen, new paint & roof. Built-in pool to beat summer heat. Wonderful home, choice neighborhood. Priced at $289,000. For pictures & info, go to: www.jeffpuliz.com. 1555 Virginia Avenue. Jeff Puliz, Parkside Property, (916) 373-9600.
jk43tfn

REAL ESTATE

LOT FOR SALE: $179,900. The old saying "Buy lots when they are young" is still true. How about an 0.2 acre lot on corner of Sacramento Blvd. & Douglas? Has a number of options. Currently zoned residential, with possibility of lot split, multiple family duplex or commercial -- would check with City. Build your dream home or build your dream. Call JOHN KANE, 373-5300. 'Your West Sacramento Specialists.' Kane Realty & Parkside Property.
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2004-30

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46

HOUSES WANTED

I can buy your house in 10 days for cash! Call Jim, (530) 902-7228.
04-#20

GOT $$$ TROUBLE? House payments taking everything? We can bring your loan current, save your credit, prevent foreclosure & you can live in your house rent-free. Broker L/M (916) 371-1912.
jk26tfn

CASH FOR YOUR HOME! No muss, no fuss. All fees paid. Brk L/M (916) 371-1912.
jk26tfn

HELP WANTED

Musicians needed for Christian church of Woodland. Seeking music/choir director and organist/pianist for church services with one practice per week. Call (530) 666-3097.
46

Housekeeper needed. Call 372-6646.
s-46tfn

Auto body shop helper, no exp needed. Clean cars, clean shop, run errands. Must have CDL. Call Izzie, 372-0229.
45tfn

Maintenance Worker Needed. Full time. Must know inside & outside maintenance. Apply in person at office, 1050 West Capitol Ave., West Sac.
cm40tfn

State-Wide Classified Advertising

"Be wary of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send any money for fees or services. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE COMPUTERS AND software! If you or your company bought Microsoft software between 1995 and 2001 you may be entitled to share in the 1.1 billion dollar Microsoft settlement. www.softwareclaims.com or 1-877-LEX-6LEX (Cal-SCAN)

INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL Students. English-speaking exchange students need caring host families. Bring the world to your doorstep! Call 1-888-743-8721 for information. (Cal-SCAN)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

ALL CASH CANDY Route. Do you earn $800 in a day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and candy. All for $9,995. MultiVend, LLC 880 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729. 1-800-814-6047. (Cal-SCAN)

ARE YOU MAKING $1,000 per week? All cash vending routes with prime locations available now! Under $9,000 investment required. Call Toll Free (24-7) 800-963-2654. (Cal-SCAN)

COFFEE BUSINESS ITALIAN Coffee Company expanding. Distributors wanted. High-profit potential. Anyone can do this! Expresso Italia. Call 800-813-6625. (Investment Required) (Cal-SCAN)

FINANCIAL SERVICES

CASH FOR STRUCTURED Settlement / Annuity payments. It's your money! Get cash now when you need it most! Oldest/best in the business. Settlement Purchasers. 1-877-MONEY-ME. (Cal-SCAN)

IMMEDIATE CASH!!! US Pension Funding pays cash now for 8 years of your future pension payments. Call 800-586-1325 for a FREE, no-obligation estimate. www.uspensionfunding.com (Cal-SCAN)

TOO MUCH DEBT? Don't choose the wrong way out. Our services have helped millions. Stick to a plan, get out of debt & save thousands. Free consultation. 1-866-410-6791. Freedompoint Financial. (Cal-SCAN)

HELP WANTED

PIPEFITTER/WELDER TRAINEES. Accepting applications from H.S. Grads under age 34. Paid relocations plus benefits. Call 1-800-345-6289. (Cal-SCAN)

HELP WANTED/ DRIVERS

DRIVER. CLASS A CDL in just 2 1/2 weeks. Tuition paid! No credit checks! Classes starting soon! Also hiring experienced OTR drivers. Guaranteed miles! 800-781-2778 (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT. Teams and Solos check out our new pay plan. Owner Operators, Experienced Drivers, Solos, Teams and Graduate Students. Call 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3729) (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVER - DRIVE REGIONAL! Over-the-Road - lots of miles. Great company & benefits. www.primeinc.com 1-800-771-6318. (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVERS - BIG PAY! New 2ó-4ó / mile pay increase! Hiring for all Divisions. Ask about Dedicated & Regional. Low cost CDL training available. 1-866-333-8801 www.swifttruckingjobs.com (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVERS WANTED! DAVIS Transport *Sign on Bonus! *Long haul *Benefits *Excellent Pay *No Haz-Mat *Paid Weekly *Flat bed training available *Owner Operators welcome! 1-866-728-0120 www.davistransport.com (Cal-SCAN)

HELP WANTED/ SALES

MOBILITY SCOOTER SPECIALISTS. If You or Anyone You Know Has ever Sold Mobility Scooters, Here's the Ultimate Opportunity. Craftmatic Bed Company Presently Has Over 29 Million Updated Actual Customer Inquiries Tested To Match The Profile Of A Red Hot Proven Scooter Buyers Database. Our Leads...Leads & More Leads Philosophy Should Tell All Who Know How Good It Can Be, This Is The Place For Me! If You Would Enjoy A Year Round Commitment To High Earnings, No Slow Seasons, Join the Undisputed King Of the Lead Business. Naturally, All Inquiries Will Be Held In the Strictest Confidence. Call: Joe Hecht 1-877-828-3731. (Cal-SCAN)

LAND FOR SALE

40 BEAUTIFUL ACRES. Only $19,900. Stunning land outside Ruidoso. Survey, soil tested, warranty, deed, electric. Maintained all weather roads. Minutes to Nat'l Forest. Convenient to Ruidoso. Low Financing Available. 1-888-292-9711. (Cal-SCAN)

NEW MEXICO - FIRST time offer. Private ranch - 140 acres, $69,900. Mature tree cover, gorgeous grasslands all at an amazing 7,500 ft. elevation. Mountain views, power and year round roads. Excellent financing. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-888-370-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

SO. COLORADO RANCH Sale. 60AC $29,900 Save money now and own some of Colorado's best land. Spectacular views of the Rockies. Access to 6000 ac of BLM Rec Area. Year round access, elec/tel included. Excellent financing. Low downpayment! Call today toll-free 1-866-696-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

ABSOLUTELY NO COST to you!! New Power Wheelchairs, Scooters, heavily discounted prescriptions. Call toll free 1-800-843-9199 24 hours a day to see if you qualify. (Cal-SCAN)

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

ANNOUNCEMENT: NOW HIRING for 2004 Postal Jobs. $16.20-$39.00/hr. Paid Training. Full Benefits. No Experience Necessary. Green Card OK. Call 1-866-895-3696 Ext. 4000. (Cal-SCAN)

FREE 4-ROOM DIRECTV System including installation! 125+ channels from $29.99/mo., including locals. 3 months HBO & Starz 2 for 1. S&H. Restrictions apply. 1-800-360-4039. (Cal-SCAN)

HIRING FOR 2004 Postal Positions. $16.00 - $58.00+/hr. Federal hire w/full benefits, paid training and vacations. No exp. necessary. 1-866-317-0558 ext.131. (Cal-SCAN)

NOW HIRING For 2004 Postal Jobs. $16.20-$39.00/hr. Paid Training. Full Benefits. No Experience Necessary. Green Card OK. Call 1-866-399-5718 ext 3000. (Cal-SCAN)

NOW HIRING 2004 Postal Positions. Federal, State & Local. $14.80/$48+/Hr. No experience necessary. Entry Levels. Full benefits. Paid training. Call (888) 826-2513 ext 211. (Cal-SCAN)

MONEY TO LOAN

ONE STEP CONSTRUCTION Loans with final loan/owner occupied. To 2 million LTV as low as 95% no payments during draw. Community West Mortgage 800-777-9811. (Cal-SCAN)

PSYCHIC

PSYCHIC SOURCE 1-866-375-9038. Gifted Psychics available 24/7. Privacy & satisfaction guaranteed. New members save 30% on first reading. www.psychicsource.com entertainment only 18+. (Cal-SCAN)

REAL ESTATE/ ACREAGE

A FREE LIST of AZ, NM, & CO land bargains. 30-160 acres. Lowest prices. EZ terms. Call 1-888-541-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

ARIZONA BEST BARGAIN, 36 acres - $34,900. Beautiful ranch in Williams/Flagstaff area, perfect 6,100' climate. Spectacular mountain views. Affordable financing. AZLR 1-877-282-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

SCHOOLS/ INSTRUCTION

EARN YOUR DEGREE - Online from home. Business, Paralegal, Computers, Networking and more. Financial Aid available, job placement assistance and computers provided. Call free (866) 858-2121. (Cal-SCAN)

STEEL BUILDINGS

STEEL BUILDING KIT Clearance Sale! 30x40, 40x80, 50x100, 150x300. Great for a Garage, Workshop, Warehouse or Factory! Call for a free Catalog: 1-800-341-7007, www.SteelMasterUSA.com (Cal-SCAN)

STEEL BUILDING SALE! "Rock Bottom Prices!" Priced to Sell. Quick Delivery. Beat next price increase. Go Direct/Save. 25x30, 30x40, 40x80, 50x90. Others. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422. (Cal-SCAN)

BEST BARGAIN IN TOWN.

A year of the News-Ledger, delivered to your West Sacramento mailbox, is still only $20.

Call 371-8030 today!

OPINION

Letters to the Editor

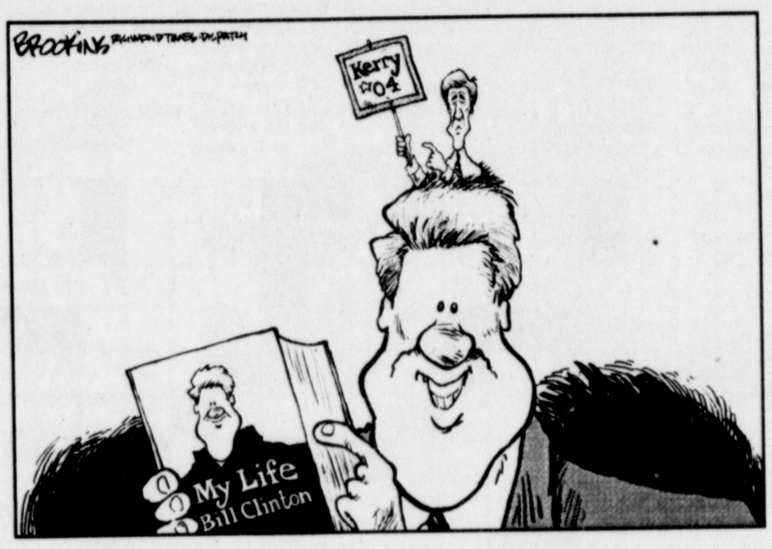
BridgeFest disappointing

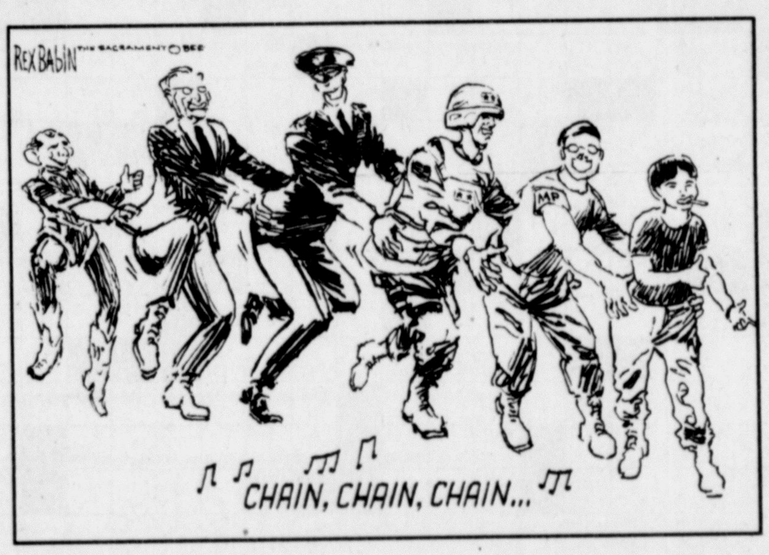
West Sac's 2004 BridgeFest fell quite short of those in previous years for the following reasons: (1) With our Southport area's population increase, the closure of the Palamidessi Bridge for this event imposed an even greater traffic jam on Jefferson Boulevard, north of the Barge Canal, on Stone Boulevard, and on Park Boulevard; (2) We had a smaller, unpaved location for the event, west of the previous sites, but barely east of the Port of Sacramento; (3) Fewer choices to enjoy our Fest, thus the encouragement to eat prior to attending future BridgeFests; (4) Music was not by traditional group (too loud), but they gave it their best, no doubt, especially the youngest performers.

While the bridge south of the Barge Canal and extra lanes on Jefferson south of the same should be complete by next July 4th, we should seriously consider renaming and relocating said event somewhere in our Southport area, preferably in (say) a playground area near offices not used at night, allowing much more parking area and, by that time, we should have much-needed improvements for YoloBus service, thus further reducing the potential for more vehicles for such events and uses during the day.

Finally, this note on the Port of Sacramento's ongoing financial woes. A friend who worked there several years ago told me they had a lot of loading/unloading business backed up, but could not afford to hire extra help, and his explanation: For too many years, the Port of Sacramento has been top-heavy and too protective with management positions and expenses from the same. So as the experts research how the Port can succeed in the future, this aspect should be examined as well as the future of compatible adjacent development on or near the Port, including projects which could reduce traffic and pollution.

WILLIAM A. LOWELL
W. Sacramento





MY PARENTS GRANTED ME "FULL SOVEREIGNTY"! I CAN DO ANYTHING I WANT AS LONG AS I GET THEIR PERMISSION!
KEN SIPS ©2004 THE NEW YORKER

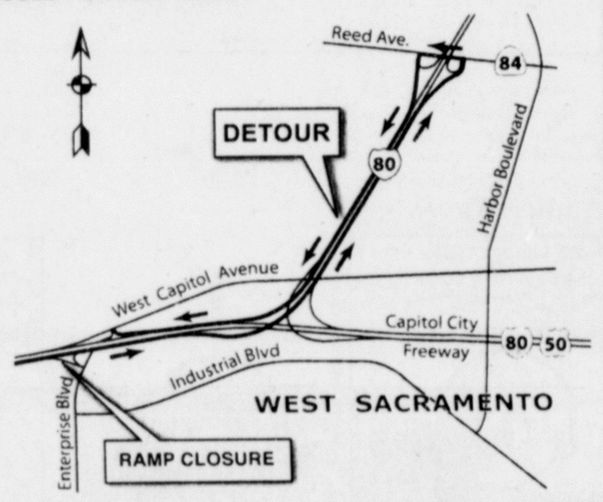
State of California • Department of Transportation

TRAFFIC ALERT

ENTERPRISE BOULEVARD/WEST CAPITOL AVENUE EXIT FROM EASTBOUND I-80 TO BE CLOSED FOR TWO WEEKS

Beginning, Tuesday July 12, the Enterprise Boulevard/West Capitol Avenue exit from eastbound I-80 will be closed for two weeks for necessary work to repair an embankment and repave the off-ramp. I-80 traffic will be directed to exit at Reed Avenue, where they can board westbound I-80 and exit at Enterprise Boulevard/West Capitol Avenue. The ramp is scheduled to re-open by Tuesday, July 26.

For more information, please call Mark Dinger at (916) 274-0678.
* Unexpected schedule changes can occur. Roadside message boards will be used to keep drivers informed of any changes to this schedule.



SLOW FOR THE ZONE

mm 1043 06/04

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUNE 21, 2004
File No. 2004-636

The following person is doing business as Raley's Aisle 1, 500 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento CA 95605:

Raley's, same address as above, incorp. in California.

This business is conducted by a Corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 3/8/04.

/s/Jennifer H. Crabb

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: June 21, 2004
by: /s/Ava Woodard, Deputy Clerk

July 7 14 2128

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUNE 21, 2004
File No. 2004-638

The following person is doing business as Nob Hill Aisle 1, 500 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento CA 95605:

Nob Hill General Store, same address as above, incorp. in California.

This business is conducted by a Corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

/s/Jennifer H. Crabb

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: June 21, 2004
by: /s/Ava Woodard, Deputy Clerk

July 7 14 2128

***

We tend to scoff at the beliefs of the ancients. But we can't scoff at them personally, to their faces, and this is what annoys me.

—Jack Handey

***

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUNE 7, 2004
File No. 04-589

The following person is doing business as 24 Hour Transport Express, 1636 Citrus St., West Sacramento CA 95695:

Ralph Godina, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 6/7/04.

/s/Ralph Godina

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: JUN 7, 2004
by: /s/CAROL GREIN, Deputy Clerk

June 16 23 30 Jul 7

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed May 19, 2004
File No. 2004-521

The following person is doing business as Ambrosial Design, 38385 LaRue Way, Davis CA 95616:

Stephanie Balsdon, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on NA.

/s/Stephanie Balsdon

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: May 19, 2004
by: /s/Ava Woodard, Deputy Clerk

June 30 July 7 14 21

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 1, 2004
File No. 04-565

The following person is doing business as Green River Construction, 2671 Betty Way, West Sacramento CA 95691:

Jeffery T. Bryan, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 6/1/04.

/s/Jeffery T. Bryan

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: June 1, 2004
by: /s/Linda Smith, Deputy Clerk

June 30 July 7 14 21

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed June 3, 2004
File No. 2004-576

The following person is doing business as American Baseball School, 1270 Triangle Ct., West Sacramento CA 95605:

David Ryan, 721 Daniels St., Woodland CA 95695:

This business is conducted by an Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 6-1-04.

/s/David W. Ryan

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: June 3, 2004
by: /s/Carol Grein, Deputy Clerk

June 16 23 30 July 7

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 3, 2004
File No. 04-573

The following person is doing business as CW's Photo & Mail Station, Formerly ShutterBug Photo and Engel's Station, 741 East St., Woodland CCA 95776-4144:

Charles W. Robb, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5/1/04.

/s/Charles W. Robb, Owner

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: JUNE 3, 2004
by: /s/Ava Woodard, Deputy Clerk

June 26 23 30 July 7

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed June 28, 2004
File No. 04-648

The following person is doing business as City Rack, 3025 West Capitol Ave., West Sacrametno CA 95691:

Hassan Abdolazim and Arezou Shadabadi, 8536 Greenback Ln, Orangevale CA 95662

This business is conducted by Husband and Wife.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on June 28, 2004.

/s/Hassan Abdolazim
/s/Arezou Shadabadi

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: June 28, 2004
by: /s/Linda Smith, Deputy Clerk

June 30 Jul 7 14 21

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
Shirley May Draper
CASE NUMBER

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Shirley Draper and Shirley M. Draper:

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Betty L. Blackerby in the Superior Court of California, County of Yolo.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Betty L. Blackerby be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on Aug. 3, 2004, at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 11, Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, 725 Court St., Woodland CA 95695.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a "Request for Special Notice" (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A "Request for Special Notice" form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:
/s/Linda S. Patrick, Attorney for Petitioner
1540 Jefferson Blvd.
West Sacramento CA 95691
June 30 July 7 14

***

When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on.

—Franklin D. Roosevelt

***

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUNE 21, 2004
File No. 2004-637

The following person is doing business as Bel Air Aisle 1, 500 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento CA 95605:

Bel Air Mart, same address as above, incorp. in California.

This business is conducted by a Corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

/s/Jennifer H. Crabb

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

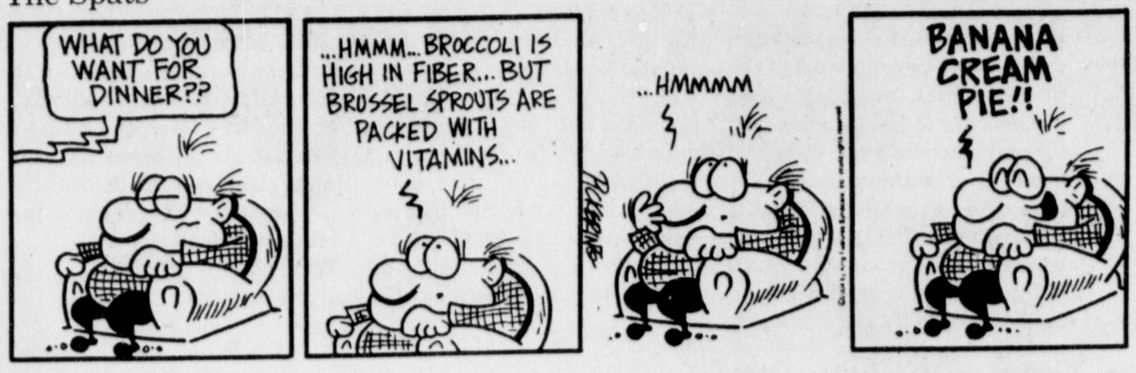
State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: June 21, 2004
by: /s/Ava Woodard, Deputy Clerk

July 7 14 2128

PUZZLES & COMICS

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering


WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR DINNER??
...HMMM...BROCCOLI IS HIGH IN FIBER...BUT BRUSSEL SPROUTS ARE PACKED WITH VITAMINS...
...HMMMM
BANANA CREAM PIE!!

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland

MY FIRST RULE OF FISHIN', JUNE, IS NOT TO WASTE 'EM-- WE EAT WHAT WE CATCH.
OOPS! DARN! SHOULDA USED THE NET!
SPLASH!
MARLAND
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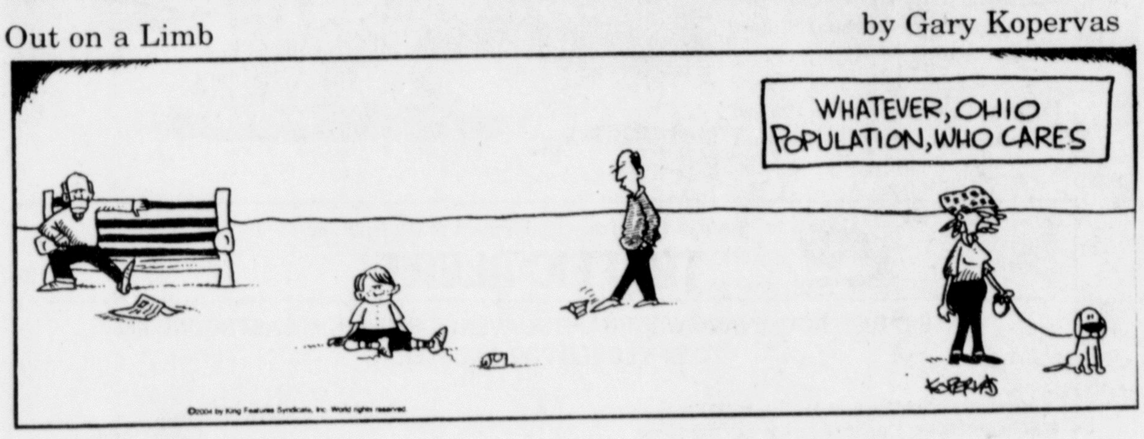
www.kingfeatures.com
www.marlandcartoons.com

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



Amber Waves

by Dave Phipps

POPEYE
Hey Eisman
ISN'T THIS WONDERFUL...
...JUST THE TWO OF US TOGETHER!
IT REMINDS ME OF WHEN I FIRST FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU!
WHEN DID YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH ME?
I REMEMBERS LIKE IT WUZ YESTIDDY!
OH! HOW AWESOME!
YA INVITED ME OVER FER DINNER...
...YA MADE SOME KINDA FISH...
...BUT THEN YA BRUNG OUT THE SALAD!
IT WUZ CHOPPED EGGS, BACON, ONIONS AN' A OIL DRESSIN'...
...OVER A BED OF RAW, TENDER BABY SPINACH LEAVES!
I THOUGHT... "HOW KIN YA NOT LOVE SOMEONE WHO COULD MAKE SUCH A GREAT SPINACH SALAD?!"
OH POPEYE, THAT IS SO ROMANTIC!
HEY EISMAN

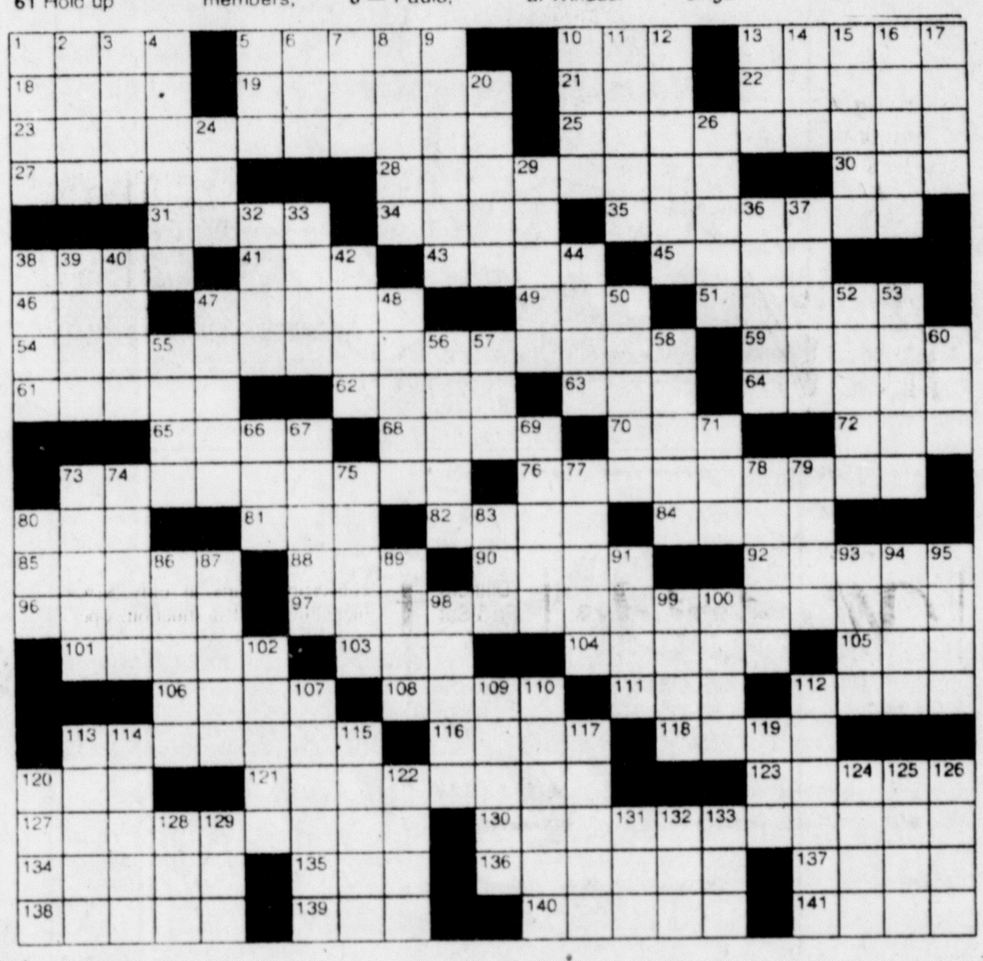
FLASH GORDON
FOR THOSE OF YOU JUST JOINING US...
THE TIME: NOW
THE PLACE: THE PLANET MONGO
BY JIM KEEFE
www.kingfeatures.com
A WORLD WHERE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY EXISTS SIDE BY SIDE WITH PREHISTORIC SAVAGERY.
LIGHT-YEARS FROM EARTH ARE CASTAWAYS FLASH GORDON, DALE ARDEN AND DR. HANS ZARKOV.
SKREEEEE!
CLICK-CLICK
KA-ZASK!
SEARCHING FOR A WAY BACK HOME, EVERY DAY IS A STRUGGLE TO JUST STAY ALIVE!
NEXT: A METEOR LANDS IN BOSTON!

Super Crossword

WHIRLED TOUR

ACROSS
1 Hollywood clashers
5 Out of line
10 Palindromic Parseghian
13 Haarlem export
18 '78 Bujold thriller
19 Lavished
21 Waggie
22 Meyerbeer masterpiece
23 West Indian trouble-maker?
25 Mideastern show tune?
27 Aquatic animal
28 Appraise
30 Compass pt.
31 Vacation sensation
34 Citrus fruit
35 Brand or Chamberlain
38 Thames town
41 Son of Noah
43 Touch down
45 "— Dinah" ('58 hit)
46 Opening
47 — acid
49 One — customer
51 Gambols
54 Speechless, in Southeast Asia?
59 Church members
61 Hold up
62 Pro bono
63 Summer quencher
64 Gawk
65 Israeli dance
68 TV's "— Life"
70 Brenda or Brandon
72 "Unforgettable" name
73 South American designer?
76 Scandinavian sugar substitute?
80 Muir or Miniver
81 By means of
82 Nobelist Wiesel
84 — gin fizz
85 Gam and Wilson
88 Exec's deg.
90 Concept
92 Pointless
96 Adult insect
97 Central American song?
101 Addis —
103 Rock's — Bravos
104 Ointment
105 Ornamental vine
106 Whip, for one
108 Family members, to many
111 Hum bug?
112 Perplexed
113 Artist Vincent
116 Stagger
118 Haul
120 Impresario Hurok
121 Self-assurance
123 Biblical kingdom
127 Caribbean entree?
130 African palanquins?
134 Where the buoys are
135 Fr. holy woman
136 Beethoven symphony
137 Ginger cookie
138 Swelling
139 Aunt or niece
140 Bestow
141 "Guarding —" ('94 film)

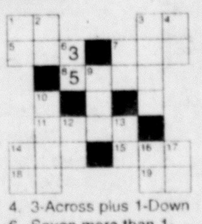
DOWN
1 Narcissus' nymph
2 Big kid?
3 Fail to mention
4 Glossy cloth
5 Garment part
6 — Paulo, Brazil
7 Relatives
8 Actress Georgia
9 Plant pest
10 Hunt's "— Ben Adhem"
11 Director Polanski
12 Let up
13 Anderson's "High —"
14 News org.
15 Raze
16 Musical of 1919
17 Unwind a rind
20 Stage stuff
24 Levin or Remsen
26 Extremely infrequently?
29 Slowly, to Sibelius
32 Dispel
33 Head set?
36 Sacred cows
37 Paul of "The Burning Bed"
38 "Heavens to Betsy!"
39 "Little Man —" ('91 film)
40 Fall birthstone
42 Irritate
44 Mrs. David Copperfield
47 "Blue —" ('77 hit)
48 It's walked at Windsor
50 Baffle
52 Nero's instrument
53 Scarecrow stuffing
55 Bolger/Haley co-star
56 Singer Della
57 Moisten
58 Starts a lawn
60 Still
66 Gun the engine
67 Out on —
69 Stage whisper
71 Sushi candidate
73 — donna
74 Cornerstone abbr.
75 Tag
77 Literary parson
78 Din
79 Easter ends it
80 Med. test
83 Taylor or Trotta
86 "F Troop" corporal
87 Edna Ferber novel
89 Crooked
91 Spirited steed
93 Baudelaire's buddies
94 Church area
95 "Orinoco Flow" singer
98 Grenoble's river
99 Beseeched
100 Done
102 Take on
107 Way out
109 On edge
110 Anchored
112 Taken way aback?
113 Endorse, with "for"
114 "The Sandbox" playwright
115 Wasteland
117 Enticed
119 Timber tree
120 Sailboat, e.g.
122 — -Ball (arcade game)
124 Mozart's "— kleine Nachtmusik"
125 Some underwear
126 Snake charmer's crew
128 Bond rating
129 NBC comedy showcase
131 Support
132 Sgt. or cpl.
133 Cornfield cry



Rational Numbers

by Linda Thistle

Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, two digits have been entered in the diagram.



ACROSS
1. One-half of 13-Down
3. One less than 19-Across
5. Three hundred less than 15-Across
7. Two times 5-Across
8. 3-Down plus 10-Down
11. Three times 14-Across
14. The sum of the digits is 3-Across
15. Seven times 14-Down
18. 4-Down plus 7-Down
19. 6-Down minus 16-Down

DOWN
1. Consecutive digits in ascending order
2. 7-Down plus 16-Down
3. 1-Down times 7-Down
4. 3-Across plus 1-Down
6. Seven more than 1-Across
7. Five more than 13-Down
9. 7-Across minus 12-Down
10. Seven times 9-Down
12. Consecutive digits in ascending order
13. Consecutive digits in ascending order
14. Seven more than 2-Down
16. Consecutive digits in descending order
17. Two less than 4-Down

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5	2	6	8	7	2	3	6	2	7	6	3	7
B	P	N	Y	N	R	A	E	O	E	W	B	W
4	6	5	8	4	6	4	2	7	3	2	6	7
L	I	E	O	I	D	F	S	R	E	P	E	E
5	4	6	5	7	2	4	6	3	5	4	3	6
Y	E	A	O	P	E	I	S	T	U	S	T	W
3	4	2	8	7	4	3	2	8	7	2	4	2
E	W	R	U	L	O	R	I	A	A	T	N	Y
7	8	4	5	8	7	5	6	7	3	4	6	8
C	R	D	R	E	E	S	E	S	L	E	L	S
2	7	6	7	8	4	3	4	5	8	4	2	7
N	O	C	L	E	R	I	F	E	C	U	O	D
2	5	6	8	5	4	3	6	8	6	8	6	3
W	L	O	U	F	L	F	M	R	E	E	D	E

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

MAGIC MAZE ● — IN —

H T R P G N L J E N O E L O H
S H E C C E A Y R W V T R P N
L I E S T A T E S A C T S U J
C A R V E D S T O N E L K I D
G E C A O T N H O M B Z X W N
U S R P P L O I H U R M L U A
J I G E E L L D M A C A B P H
L L A L L A I L A R N H M A D
Y C X W U T S R A Q A D P R N
E N I L L L A F P F O E N M A
L K T N I O P E S A C J B S H

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

All all
Arm arm
April Paris
Bear mind
Carved stone
Case point
Cash hand
Fall line
Fall love
Get touch
Hand hand
Just case
Lie state
Rest peace
Up arms

DINING, TRAVEL & ENTERTAINMENT

Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On **July 14, 1099,** during the First Crusade, Christian knights from Europe capture Jerusalem after seven weeks of siege and begin massacring the city's Muslim and Jewish population.

• On **July 18, 1929,** Hunter S. Thompson, who pioneered "gonzo journalism," is born in Louisville, Ky. Thompson also wrote several best sellers, including "Hell's Angels" and "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas."

• On **July 17, 1955,** Disneyland, Walt Disney's metropolis of nostalgia, fantasy and futurism, opens in Anaheim, Calif. The $17 million theme park was built on 160 acres of former orange groves, and soon brought in staggering profits.

• On **July 12, 1962,** at the Marquee Club in London, the Rolling Stones give their first public performance. The band, named after a Muddy Waters song, included singer Mick Jagger, guitarists Keith Richards and Brian Jones, bassist Dick Taylor and drummer Mick Avory, who later played with the Kinks.

• On **July 15, 1965,** comedian Joan Rivers marries Edgar Rosenberg. Rivers, a former department store worker, had worked as a struggling comedian for years, and her new husband became a favorite topic of her comedy routines.

• On **July 16, 1969,** at 9:32 a.m. EDT, Apollo 11 is launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla., on a historic journey to the surface of the moon. Three days later, after traveling 240,000 miles, Apollo 11 and astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins entered into a lunar orbit.

• On **July 13, 1985,** Live Aid, a massive concert for African famine relief, takes place simultaneously in Philadelphia and London. In addition to the 162,000 fans who attended the all-day event, 1.5 billion viewers worldwide watched the show on MTV or other TV stations. An estimated 75 percent of all radio stations around the world broadcast at least part of the concert.

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The basic difference between an ordinary man and a warrior is that a warrior takes everything as a challenge while an ordinary man takes everything either as a blessing or a curse.

—Carlos Castaneda

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CRITIC'S CORNER

By D.N.A Smith

"The Terminal"

Running time: 128 minutes
MPAA rating: PG-13

These days, spending time in an airport terminal is an ordeal. Going to the movies to spend time at "The Terminal" is just slightly less of one.

The film stars Tom Hanks as Viktor Navorski, a citizen of a fictitious Eastern European country, who has flown to New York with a peanut can of Great Significance. When he arrives at JFK airport, he discovers that there has been a coup in his homeland and that the United States does not recognize the new government. As a result, Viktor's visa is declared invalid and he cannot enter the U.S. He also cannot return home. He is marooned — or in the words of Frank Dixon (Stanley Tucci), the Homeland Security officer in charge, "a citizen of nowhere."

Without any money or command of the English language, Viktor must use his wits to survive. By watching television, he learns to pick up a few phrases of English, and he makes food money by returning baggage carts.

He also makes friends with some of the airport workers and, in time, becomes something of a hero to them. Oddly though, not enough of a hero for anyone to call a newspaper or a television station.

It's here where the film falls apart. There is no sense of reality to this picture at all. One call to a TV station and Viktor becomes national news and his plight is over.

No one calls.

And in this post-9/11 world, how can we believe that the Homeland Security officer in charge of the busiest airport in the country, based in the city where the greatest act of terrorism against this country was committed, would allow a foreigner to have free run of the airport? It's absurd, but not as absurd as the romantic subplot between Viktor and Catherine Zeta-Jones' character. I won't even go into it.

Tom Hanks

The only thing keeping "The Terminal" from being terminally dumb and a waste of your time is the brilliant performance by Tom Hanks. For the first 45 minutes of the movie, where he can't speak much English, he is able to convey so many layers of emotion just by using his body language and expression. It is a subtle and sublime piece of acting by a man who knows his craft.

If you see "The Terminal," don't go because of the contrived romance, see it for one of the best performances of the year.

GRADE: C

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TEST DRIVE

by Greg Zyla

2005 Chrysler PT Cruiser Convertible
Base price: $19,405
Price as tested: $28,355

This week we test-drive Chrysler's 2005 PT Cruiser Convertible GT, the first soft-top version of the retrospect model that burst on the scene five years ago. The best news is that this convertible starts at only $19,995, including $590 destination, opening up a whole new market for those who didn't think they could afford a convertible.

Our test model came in GT Turbo dress, listing at $28,355 from a base of $27,565. The only option on the Cruiser was a $200 in-dash 6-disc CD stereo upgrade, while all of the other equipment is standard.

The PT Cruiser's convertible top is very easy to operate, and an unlatching of the top and a press of the button is all that's necessary. Once the top recedes, a colored-keyed sport bar with overhead lighting is most prominent, and similar to designs on high-dollar exotic sports cars.

Especially noteworthy is the cargo area, which isn't stuffed with the soft top. There is a total of 13.3 cubic-feet of pass-through cargo volume when the back seat is in fold-and-tumble mode, and a generous area when the seats are in use. We loaded quite a few bags of groceries in the trunk with no trouble.

As for interior dimensions, a whopping 84.3 cubic-feet of overall interior room greets passengers, which is way more than the Beetle convertible (79.6) and the Ford Mustang ragtop (79.0). The two rear passengers will also enjoy best-in-class legroom of 40.9 inches, 10 more than the Beetle and 11 more than Mustang. That's impressive.

The driving experience, meanwhile, is brisk and fun, thanks to the turbocharged 2.4-liter (148 cubic-inch) engine, which puts out 220 horsepower and 245 pound-feet of torque. The engine came hooked to a nice-shifting Getrag five-speed manual, which we loved. This car will get up and go, whether merging or passing, with no problem. The engine, although high-performance in nature, still allows 21 mpg city and 27 mpg highway, so there is a surprising return on investment with the turbo model. Other engines for non-GT models include a base model 150-horsepower 2.4 liter, or a 180-horsepower 2.4 turbo for the mid-range Touring model.

On the road, a front strut and rear Watt's Linkage suspension setup, complemented by stiffer GT-style rear shocks and a rear trailing arm, make for excellent handling. The 103-inch wheelbase also helps. Again, in comparing the two other very popular convertible models, the Beetle has only a 99.1-inch wheelbase, and the Mustang 101.3.

Our driving experience included several longer trips. The car was fast on the freeways, handled the secondary roads like a sports car, and the three passengers, one well over 6 feet tall, never complained about a lack of room — even when the 6-footer sat in the back!

2005 Chysler PT Cruiser Convertible

Likes: Power, good reliability, fun car, very roomy everywhere.

Dislikes: No daytime running lamps, ABS is optional on non-GT models

Other GT notables include standard four-wheel ABS disc brakes, low-speed traction control, chrome-accented grille and fascia, 17-inch cast aluminum wheels, and driver and front passenger side airbags.

Important numbers include a curb weight of 3,483 pounds, 15-gallon fuel tank and overall length of 168.8 inches.

In summary, we're going to bestow a strong 9 on a scale of 1 to 10 (10 best) for the PT Cruiser Convertible GT Turbo. Even though the looks aren't for everyone, this car is strong on performance and reliability, and lots of fun with the top down or up.

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Books

Cronies: Oil, the Bushes, and the Rise of Texas — America's Superstate
by Robert Bryce
(PublicAffairs, $26)
Reviewed by Larry Cox

How did Texas, a state which just 15 years ago was solidly Democratic, become the cornerstone of the GOP South and launch George W. Bush into the White House? A new book by Robert Bryce, a New York Times writer, offers some intriguing answers.

No other state has a tighter hold on America's psyche, politics and wallet. The true power of the region began in earnest during the 1930s when cash began to flow from the oil fields of East Texas. At the center of this enormous political power was a handful of extremely wealthy families and Texas' most controversial company, Halliburton.

"Cronies: Oil, The Bushes, and the Rise of Texas" explains how and why Texans are, indeed, currently running the world. The power extends beyond the increasing number of both business and political leaders who have ties to the state. It permeates America's foreign policy and determines to a great extent what happens in energy-rich locales such as the Persian Gulf.

According to Bryce, if you doubt the power of Texans, you merely have to connect the dots of what occurred during the final weeks of the national presidential election of 2000. In order for George W. Bush to secure the final victory, he needed a herd of lawyers, a fleet of airplanes and piles of money. He got all that and much, much more from influential family cronies and an assortment of fat cats, all from the Lone Star state.

Although many of Bryce's conclusions are certain to be controversial, especially in this election season, his book is thoroughly researched and documented. He underscores the uncomfortable reality of how our American political system has been thoroughly perverted by plunderers and special-interest groups. Put another way, a separate and very unequal government is now in place to accommodate the cronies and friends that helped put Bush in the White House.

Books reviewed in this column are available at your local bookstore.

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THE CHOPPING BLOCK

by Philomena Corradeno

BLUEBERRIES ARE BACK IN SEASON

We're coming into blueberry season, and this is the right time to take advantage of their abundance, not only because they taste so good but because they are probably the most convenient fruit to have on hand. Blueberries store well in the fridge, need only a rinse and they're ready, and they're fuss-free — no peeling, no hulling. And, small as they are, they're packed with antioxidants, which may help prevent some cancers and age-related woes.

Even if they were not healthful, they would please your palate. Blueberries are good in baking, blend well with other fruit flavors and even do well in savory dishes.

In our first recipe, we're giving you an impressive summery dessert: a puff pastry stars (or any cookie shape you like) sandwich filled with a creamy custard sauce and blueberries.

In the second recipe, the blues mate their nutrients with vitamin-, mineral- and fiber-rich mangoes in a refreshing exotic salad with a touch of rum, if you like.

BLUEBERRY AND CUSTARD-FILLED STAR PUFFS

1 sheet (from a 17-ounce package) frozen puff pastry, thawed
1 (3-3/8-ounce) package instant vanilla pudding and pie filling
1 cup milk
1 (8-ounce) container sour cream
1 pint (about 2 cups) fresh blueberries
1 tablespoon sugar
1 tablespoon chopped fresh mint (optional)
1/2 teaspoon grated orange peel
Confectioners sugar

Preheat oven to 400 F. On work surface, carefully unfold puff pastry; with a rolling pin, roll pastry out 1/2-inch wider than its original dimension. Using a 3-inch star-shaped cookie cutter*, cut out 12 stars. With a spatula, transfer stars to an ungreased baking sheet 1 inch apart. Bake until puffed and golden, about 15 minutes. Transfer stars to wire rack; cool slightly. Using a sharp knife, cut stars in half horizontally; cool completely.

To prepare sauce: In a medium bowl, place pudding mix and milk. Using an electric mixer, beat until mixture is smooth, about 2 minutes. Fold in sour cream; cover and refrigerate until thickened, about 15 minutes.

In another medium bowl, combine blueberries, sugar, mint and orange peel, cover and refrigerate until ready to serve. Before serving, using a small strainer, sprinkle tops of stars with confectioners sugar; set aside.

To serve: On each dessert plate place 2 star bottoms, spoon on 1/3 cup sauce and 1/3 cup blueberries; top with 2 reserved star tops. Makes 6 servings.

*Note: If star-shaped cutter is unavailable, cut a star from heavy cardboard; lightly place on pastry; with tip of knife, cut out stars.

BLUEBERRY-MANGO COLADA SALAD

2 cups fresh blueberries
2 mangos, peeled, seeded and sliced (about 1-3/4 cups)
1/4 cup frozen piña colada mix, thawed
1 tablespoon dark rum (optional)

In a large bowl, combine blueberries, mangos, piña colada mix and rum. Into 4 martini glasses or dessert dishes, spoon fruit mixture, dividing evenly. Garnish with blueberries, mango slices and thin lime slices threaded onto long toothpicks, if desired. Makes 4 portions.

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CELEBRITY extra

by Evelyn Green

Q. I really enjoyed watching actor Joe Pantoliano when he was on "The Sopranos," and I thought he was great on the (CBS) show "The Handler." What has he been doing since that show went off the air? — *Harry H.*

A. Pantoliano has been preparing for his new CBS series, "Dr. Vegas," in which he co-stars with Rob Lowe ("The West Wing"). The new show is scheduled to premiere in the 2004-2005 season.

Joe Pantoliano

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Q. On "Will and Grace," can you tell me if the woman who plays Rosario played one of the nuns in (the 1960s show) "The Flying Nun"? If so, was she a nun in real life, as one of my co-workers says? — *Renee S.*

A. Shelley Morrison did indeed play Sister Sixto on "The Flying Nun." As for your second question, the Bronx-born Sephardic Jew, who traces her ancestry to Spain and who now practices Lakota Indian spiritual traditions, was never a nun — she just played one on TV.

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Q. I know that Soledad O'Brien, one of the anchors on CNN's "American Morning," is expecting twins. When will the babies be born, and does she know if they're boys, girls or one of each? Also, how did she react when she learned she would have twins? — *Jocelyn DeJ.*

A. O'Brien and her husband, Brad, expect twin boys in August. She says she wasn't really surprised when she first learned she was carrying two babies, since twins run in her family: Her father is a twin, and her sister has twins. The babies will be welcomed by Cecilia, 2, and Sofia, 4, both of whom, O'Brien says, are ready to assume the duties of big sisters.

***

Q. Where is the "Xena/Hercules" movie that I once read was going to be done? Also, where is the movie that's supposed to tie up all the loose ends for "The Pretender" and tell us the truth about Jarod (Michael T. Weiss) and Miss Parker's (Andrea Parker) mothers? In short, why do they tell us these movies will be made, and then don't make them? — *M.L.H.*

A. Sometimes producers promise movies just to keep the names of their properties alive in the press. Sometimes they do it to assess possible interest in such projects. And sometimes they do it because they plan to produce them, but something — such as lack of financing or lack of interest among the networks — puts their best-made plans either on the shelf or in the delete file.

As for the two you mentioned, both stars — Lucy Lawless and Kevin Sorbo — have said they want to maintain some distance from their Xena and Hercules characters, at least for a while. In the case of the "Pretender" flick, that project is said to be in the inactive, but not-yet-dead file. So, we may yet get to see it while we're young enough to remember what the series was all about.

Have a question for Evelyn? E-mail her at letters.kfws@hearstsc.com, or write to her in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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One thing life has taught me: if you are interested, you never have to look for new interests. They come to you. When you are genuinely interested in one thing, it will always lead to something else.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

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It would seem that something which means poverty, disorder and violence every single day should be avoided entirely, but the desire to beget children is a natural urge.

—Phyliis Diller

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PAGE FROM THE PAST

EIGHT INDEPENDENT-LEADER FRIDAY, MAY 4, 19

WASHINGTON NEWS ITEMS

The Sacramento River registered 11 feet 6 inches, U. S. gauge at the S. P. bridge yesterday.

W. Egan is recovering from a severe attack of stomach and heart trouble with which he has been suffering during the past two weeks. Yesterday his condition was much improved.

Mrs. F. De Riso, Sr., has returned from Hilt, where she spent several days with her son and daughter-in-law. This is the first visit that Mrs. De Riso has made to the forest section of California and she was greatly surprised to see the manipulation of the great lumber mills of that locality.

The Washington Star Club resolved at its meeting last Wednesday night to discontinue its regular meetings on and after July 1st. The activities of the club have been helpful to many of the young boys of Washington during the winter season, helping them to useful and elevating pastime which at the same time kept them off the streets where youngsters are never apt to learn any good.

Ford—New Penn cup cord tires; motor excellent. This car does not look like much, but runs fine. Come and drive it away for $175.00. Flint Motor Co., 1220 K St.—adv.

Next Sunday the Yolo Giants, the classy local baseball team, will go to Nicolaus to tackle the club of that section. The local boys anticipate showing those farmers how baseball ought to be played and they are going to show some of those up-river youngsters some of the tricks of the game.

"Nig" Newell has been given a stead job by the Dolphin Club of Sacramento to paint all the boats of the members of the club, and Nig is wasting no time in finishing the job. The boats have been laid up in the boathouse all winter and as the club is starting its activities about the first of June, the boats are being placed in condition for the opening.

Mrs. Mattie Starkey, with her granddaughter, Joy Painter, is making her home at the Painter domicile for the summer months. Possibly she may go with the child to join her daughter Vera in New York late this fall.

Mystery Overland 1922—Looks like new, driven very few miles, bound to give great satisfaction. $425.00 takes it and we make liberal terms. Flint Motor Co., 1220 K St.—adv.

Friends of Jack Maley bring word from Colusa that he is now foreman of a large ranch in the river town and that he has succeeded better than his fondest anticipations. Jack was a resident here for many years and has a host of friends who will be glad to read of his success.

The Parent-Teacher Association is making preparations for a dance to be held in the public school building Friday evening, May 11th. These periodical dances given by the Parent-Teachers have been enjoyable affairs and have been well attended by all the parents and children of the town. A large crowd is looked for on Friday evening, May 11.

A large crowd of Washington people spent last Sunday picnicking in Putah Canyon. Nearly all of them are members of a rifle club and the pastime of shooting into the mountains along the canyon affords much pleasure. Among the families who attended the picnic were the Allerton family, the Bartle family, the Peek family, the Glasford family, and also several families from Sacramento.

W. Bird and Rene Bartlett of Oroville spent last Tuesday with the Gardie Egan family. The young couple were just about to be married in Sacramento and remained with the Egans till they went on their honeymoon following the wedding.

Chevrolet—Runs good, looks good, has good tires. What more do you want? Easy terms for your family conveyance. Flint Motor Co., 1220 K St.—adv.

Mrs. James Caffero went to Suisun last Monday to spent a few weeks with her daughter Mary. Deeply distressed following the death of her husband, her children insisted that she go away for a few weeks to forget her troubles.

The regular Saturday evening dance will be held in the town hall tomorrow for which special preparations have been made by the promoters. These dances have become a drawing card for the local young people as well as for many from Sacramento, Riverbank and West Sacramento. The quiet and orderly manner in which these dances are conducted has helped along to make the entertainments a great success.

Mrs. Gene Garner was a visitor at the Washington Hotel yesterday with friends. She was formerly a resident of Lodi but lately settled in Sacramento.

Nash 1921 Roadster — Brand new cord tires all around, newly painted. This is a snap at $550.00, and we give you easy terms. Treat your girl. Flint Motor Co., 1220 K St.—adv.

Mrs. H. Garber entertained yesterday afternoon with Mrs. Carl Simmons of East Sacramento and Mrs. Joseph Dunlap and Mrs. W. L. Butters of Oak Park as her guests.

Mrs. M. Case of Chico was a visitor with her son, A. L. Case, principal of the Washington school, last weekend.

Ed Moss and Frank Beale spent the week-end in San Francisco on business.

Seth Barry and Harley Austin have gone to Vernon for a few days.

Mrs. Thomas Eddy and son were in Grass Valley last Sunday.

W. Edenson returned to his home in Oakland, after a visit at the home of his sister, Mrs. H. Garber.

Mr. and Mrs. Judy Noyes (Mrs. Mary Biggs), whose marriage took place in Sacramento on Sunday, were their home by a number of their friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Clifford and Miss Leona Thatcher spent the week-end in Merced.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Speicher, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dupzyk and Mrs. Carrie Harms spent yesterday in Napa.

Mrs. Herman Garber has returned from a stay of three months in Oak-

FISH A RARE COMMODITY IN THE SACRAMENTO RIVER NOW

Although the State Fish and Game Commission and its members and employes brag a good deal about what has been done to preserve the fish in the streams of the State, it appears as if all the efforts of the commission and its employes had resulted in naught.

Usually for Lent, during years past, a plentiful supply of salmon has been available in the Sacramento River. Even in 1922 there was a slight run of salmon near the end of Lent and a good deal of fish was taken by local fishermen.

This year no man desiring to make a few dollars from the sale of salmon had been able to do so, although many have steadfastly tried and many have kept their seines ready for any appearance of fish.

After all the money and all the time and all the effort that has been spent to preserve the fish in the streams of the State for the people by the State Fish and Game Commission, there is not a fish to be found, at least not a salmon.

True, a few shad and a few carp and a few hard-heads are being taken by rod and line but no salmon to amount to anything have been taken from the Sacramento River this year.

A few years ago the Pankost Fish & Boat Company put up several tons of mild-cured salmon that was shipped to European countries where the article was a great favorite and commanded the highest price in the market.

This year not a soul—farmer or artisan—put up a single salmon taken from the Sacramento River and landed at this side of the stream.

Perhaps it is barely possible that instead of being a preservative element, the State Fish and Game Commission is ruining the fish in the streams of the State.

JOE BANKS FOUND DEAD AS RESULT OF CANNED HEAT

A jovial, whole-souled, good-hearted colored man, Joe Banks, was found dead in a room full of people last Sunday night in Sacramento.

Invited to the home of a friend for an evening of pastime, Joe attended and seemed to be in his usual good spirits.

For a short time his friends noticed that he was extremely quiet and calling on him to answer a question they noticed that their call remained unanswered.

Efforts to arouse him were of no avail and after a while it was found that he had quietly passed away in the midst of his friends without a struggle.

Joe had no family and no known relatives in this locality. He worked whenever any jobs presented themselves, but was not over anxious to seek work at any time.

He was a veteran of the World War and it is believed he was a member of the American Legion.

He lived in a small shack at the rear of Third and Harriet Streets where he batched for himself, and any wayfarer who happened to come along could share his board.

It is believed that Banks caught up with some of the men who distilled canned heat under the M Street bridge and who used the alcohol for beverage purposes. Piles of the Paraffine, remnants of the canned heat, are scattered on the ground in the vicinity of the entrance to the bridge.

SACTO NORTHERN RAILWAY SHOWS GAIN FOR 1922

Sacramento Northern Railroad, operating in Sacramento, Chico, Colusa, Vacaville, Suisun and Woodland, reports to the Railroad Commission for the year 1922 that its operating revenue was $1,608,300.81; operating expenses $1,372,456.33, giving a net operating revenue of $235,844.46. Miscellaneous non-operating revenue amounted to $25,743.39. Interest, rent, taxes and other deductions totaled $311,618.18.

The net corporate loss for the year was $50,033.33. The deficit at the beginning of the year amounted to $118,652.11. Miscellaneous additions to surplus for 1922 amounted to $7,459.32 and miscellaneous deductions were $42,197.23, leaving an accumulated deficit at the end of the year of $203,420.35.

JUDGE BARRY IS SLIGHTLY AFFLICTED BY ANOTHER STROKE

Last Tuesday Judge Barry became afflicted with a slight stroke of paralysis that affected his right arm but did not reach to any other part of his body.

Since that time he has been under the care of physicians but has not been confined to his bed except for a short time Wednesday forenoon.

He is now able to be up and around his home and his friends and relatives are looking for a quick recovery.

The judge will be able to transact his regular routine of business in his position of Justice of the Peace.

Some time ago Judge Barry was a victim of an automobile wreck in Yuba County, but to all appearances he was not seriously injured at that time. However, his physical condition has been somewhat impaired since the date of the wreck.

GREAT BARNS AND OTHER BUILDINGS GOING UP IN HOLLAND

Clarksburg, May 4. — Dwellings, barns and outbuildings, some of them of considerable proportions, are now being built by a dozen or more land buyers in the Holland Land Company tract west of here. Most of these substantial improvements indicate expanding farming operations by those who have already proved for themselves the productivity of these sedimentary lands. The rapid peopling of the district has emphasized the need for the new Clarksburg Union School, now under construction.

S. O. S. CALL FOR HELP FOR OLD FAMILY

Two or three weeks ago a good deal of publicity was given to the distressful condition of William Burgess and his wife, who are located at Second and Margaret Streets in a camp wagon in which they have been living all through the winter.

William Burgess and wife have been hard workers, but failed to accumulate in many years of hard work.

Now Burgess is afflicted with rheumatism and cannot work. His wife is forced to devote all her time to his care, with the result that the family larder is empty.

Members of the Boy Scouts and members of the Washington Star Club Reserve helped the poor couple out some two weeks ago, but yesterday they were found again suffering from want.

Most of the help offered them by the Sacramento papers was of a publicity nature, but very little material help came along through that publicity.

GREAT CROP OF BEETS IN HOLLAND DISTRICT

Clarksburg, Apr. 27.—After a survey of the sugar beet acreage planted in the Holland Land District this season, a representative of one of the sugar companies has announced that a prospective tonnage of 60,000 to 70,000 will be shipped to the Alvarado refinery. Approximately 3,800 acres have been planted, with indications of a better crop than last year's, when the yield averaged more than 17 tons to the acre.

CERVANTES ACCUSED BY SACRAMENTO POLICE OF THEFT

In the arrest of Jose Cervantes of 516 Fourth Street, Sacramento, the police believe they have one of the burglars who broke into a Japanese store on Fourth Street, Sacramento, several nights ago and escaped with clothing and other merchandise, valued at $2,000.

Cervantes was arrested at his home last night by Inspector Arthur Ryan and Detectives William Hallanan and Frank McAllister. The detectives' visit to Cervantes' place was the result of a report Patrolman Ed Malone received that Cervantes had burned some suitcases in his back yard several days ago. Among other articles of loot taken from the Japanese store were some suitcases.

In searching the yard the officers found a suitcase frame and buckles in a pile of ashes and partly burned rubbish.

RAIDS MADE BY PROHIBITION OFFICERS GET RESULTS

Near Rose Orchard last Friday night at the ranch of Louie Luchinni and O. Pierini, Officers Greer and Plant discovered a large quantity of wine said to amount to 650 gallons which was confiscated by the prohibition officers.

The two men were placed under arrest by Officers Greer and Plant and were taken to Sacramento where they were placed under bond of $1000 each.

They are now at liberty and are waiting trial for infractions of the Volstead Law.

Following the raid at the ranch, Greer and Plant called at the Bluebird Inn. Here they found a small quantity of whiskey which was confiscated. B. Abney, Guy Hurst and Chas. Davis, negroes, were arrested and taken to Sacramento to be placed under bonds.

VOLSTEAD ARREST AT BRYTE

A. G. Silva of Bryte, Yolo County, was arrested last night by Prohibition Agents L. A. Plant and W. W. Greer on a charge of violating the national prohibition act. He was booked at the Sacramento city prison.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE INDEPENDENT-LEADER

Hemstitching and Picoting Attachment. Fits any sewing machine. Price $2.00. Checks 10c extra. Light's Mail Order House, Box 172, Birmingham, Ala. 38-43

WANTED—Men, women and children in every community to send a post card for SUNSET'S big, interesting Gift Catalogue—just out. Hundreds of useful, valuable rewards in return for a little "spare time." Address Catalogue Dept., SUNSET MAGAZINE, San Francisco.

DAY OLD CHIX — Golden Buff, Brown and White Leghorns, Anconas, Black Minorcas, Buff Orpingtons, R. I. Reds, Barred Rocks and Turkens. No electric lights on breeding stock. ENOCH CREWS, Seabright, Calif.

SALE—ARMY SHOES—SALE

We have just bought a tremendous stock of Army Munson last shoes to be sold to the public direct. Price $2.75. These shoes are 100% solid leather with heavy double soles sewed and nailed. The uppers are of heavy tan chrome leather with bellows tongue, thereby making them waterproof. These shoes are selling very fast and we advise you to order at once to insure your order being filled. The sizes are 6 to 11 all widths. Pay postman on receipt of goods or send money order. Money refunded if shoes are not satisfactory. THE U. S. STORES CO., 1441 Broadway, New York City.

6% MONEY. Under Bankers Reserve System 6% loans may be secured on city or farm property, to buy, build, improve, or pay indebtedness. Bankers Reserve Deposit Company, 1648 California Street, Denver, Colorado.

WANTED—Man with car to sell complete line low priced TIRES and TUBES. $100.00 per week. Sterlingworth Tire Co., 343 Sterling, E. Liverppol, Ohio.

JULIUS HOTEL
801 J Street, Sacramento
We Serve a Fashionable and Substantial
ITALIAN DINNER
At a Price That Is Fair to Us and Our Customers

You Eat MEAT!
That is our business
Our prices are less
Your selection is invited
YE PROGRESSE MEAT SHOPPE
(Only shop near west end of Sacramento operated by white men)
505 K Street

Washington Hotel
YOLO
SOFT DRINKS, CIGARS
Raviola and Chicken Dinners Sundays
Regular Italian Meals Daily
Weekdays, Meals 35c
Sundays, 50c
D. PELLINI, Prop.
Phone 3479-W

7-Mile House
Upper Stockton Road
This is a House of Staples
Tires, Gas, Tubes, Oils and Groceries
Campers' Supplies for Travelers
NICK KADEL, PROPR.

Conley's Cash Store
ON THE RIVERSIDE ROAD
Has no new habits and does not believe that its patrons have very new ideas.
We cater to gentlemen for eats and drinks.
Soft Drinks of Every Make
Dancing Every Saturday Night
Sandwiches of All Kinds
MILTON AYERS, Prop.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Near Baseball Park on 10th Street Car Line

DON'T FORGET
The H & C
207 K Street, Sacramento
The same genial old place with a smile for the worn and the weary.
We Cater to Travelers

STAR CAFE
130 J Street
We Cater to the LIBERAL PEOPLE of Sacramento and Yolo Counties in any beverages that are within the law.
V. Salani, Proprietor

We Can Make Your Suit to Order
In Three Days
VALUES AT HALF PRICE
$25 $30 $35
If you want hand-tailored clothes, possessing the utmost in style, supreme in quality, at a price that is right, see our values first.

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 22, 2004
File No. 04-640

The following person is doing business as Delta Properties, 44150 Country Club Drive, El Macero CA 95618:

Lee Chen, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 7/1/79. Previous fictitious business name number 87-0483 (99-429).

/s/Lee Chen

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: June 21, 2004
by: /s/Ava Woodard, Deputy Clerk

July 7 14 21 28

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF Laura C. Robles
CASE NUMBER PB04-126

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Laura C. Robles:

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Olivia R. Robles in the Superior Court of California, County of Yolo.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Olivia R. Robles be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on Aug. 3, 2004, at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 11 at Yolo County Superior Court, 725 Court St., Woodland, CA 95695.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a "Request for Special Notice" (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A "Request for Special Notice" form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:
/s/L. Miles Snyder
555 Capitol Mall, Suite 770
Sacramento CA 95814

July 7 14 21 28

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 1, 2004
File No. 04-606

The following person is doing business as The Investment Company, 750 F Street, Suite 2, Davis CA 95616:

Greg McNece, Frank P. Liggett, Elmer McNece, Mark C. McNece, all at above address.

This business is conducted by a General Partnership.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 4/20/99.

/s/Greg McNece

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: 6/11/04
by: /s/Sara Pfeifle, Deputy Clerk

June16 23 30 Jul 7

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed Jan 27, 2004
File No. 04-96

The following person is doing business as Second Street Warehouse; 2nd Street Self Storage, 750 F Street, Suite 2, Davis CA 95616:

Davisville Properties, Inc., same address.

This business is conducted by a Limited Partnership.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 1/27/04.

/s/Greg McNece, President
Davisville Properties, Inc.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: 1/27/04
by: /s/Linda Smith, Deputy Clerk

June 16 23 30 Jul 7

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed June 7, 2004
File No. 2004-581

The following person is doing business as Sierra Snowboard Ski & Patio, 5400 Date Avenue, Sacramento CA 95841-2503:

Michael Anthony Management, Inc., a Calif., corp. #CA 2324356, 5562 N. Lake Blvd., Carnelian Bay, CA 96140:

This business is conducted by a corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 4-1-04.

/s/Michael A. Harrosh, President
Michael Anthony Management, Inc.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: June 7, 2004
by: /s/Ava Woodard, Deputy Clerk

June 23 30 July 7 14

Fictitious Business Name Statement

Filed May 27, 2004
File No. 04-554

The following person is doing business as Lowest Cost Loan, 416 Dresbach Way, Davis CA 95616:

Jinamark LLC, 1411 Covell Blvd., Suite 106 #179, Davis CA 95616.

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Co.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5/27/04.

/s/Tina Cachules

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: May 27, 2004
by: /s/Linda Smith, Deputy Clerk

June 23 30 July 7 14

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed May 27, 2004
File No. 04-674

The following person is doing business as The Nations Best Lenders.com, 416 Dresbach Way, Davis CA 95616:

Jinamark LLC, 1411 Covell Blvd., Suite 106 #179, Davis CA 95616.

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Co.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 8/15/02 & 5/28/03.

/s/Tina Cachules, CFO
Jinamark LLC

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: May 27, 2004
by: /s/Linda Smith, Deputy Clerk

June 23 30 Jul 7 14

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed May 27, 2004
File No. 04-006

The following person is doing business as LenderDirectory.org, 416 Dresbach Way, Davis CA 95616:

Jinamark LLC, 1411 Covell Blvd., Suite 106 #179, Davis CA 95616.

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Co.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5/28/03.

/s/Tina Cachules

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Freddie Oakley, Clerk
Date: May 27, 2004
by: /s/Linda Smith, Deputy Clerk

June23 30 Jul 7 14

(NAPS)—Whether you're new to golf or a longtime duffer, the 2nd edition of the best-selling "Golf For Dummies" (Wiley, $21.99) is guaranteed to get you into the swing of things. Now updated with new step-by-step photos, coverage of exercises and equipment, tips for women, seniors, and lefties, and fun facts about golf history, it's all golfers need to take strokes off their game.

The book

Driving even more golfers to the book is a Golf For Dummies DVD, hosted by Gary McCord, the author of "Golf For Dummies" and PGA Senior Tour champion. The DVD, the result of a new partnership between Razor & Tie and Wiley, will help golfers get a grip on this simple (but not so easy) game and benefit from a golf champion's 30 years of experience.

The DVD

BID NOTICE

CONTRACT NUMBER DS4-374, Repair Defensive Driving Training Course. The Work of this Project includes but is not limited to remove where designated existing Asphalt and Aggregate Base and replace with new. Overlay existing Drivers Training Track with new Asphalt or concrete where designated and install new curbs. The State's estimate for the project is $432,530.00. A mandatory pre-bid site conference has been scheduled on Wednesday, July 14, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. in West Sacramento, CA. Prospective bidders shall convene with State representatives at the California Highway Patrol Academy, 3500 Reed Avenue, West Sacramento, Yolo County, California. Bids will be accepted only from Bidders who are qualified Contractors and who have attended the Mandatory Pre-Bid Site Inspection Tour. To make arrangements to attend the site inspection, contact Jack Hite at (916) 567-8024. The license required for this work is: Class A, General Engineering or C-12, Earthwork and Paving. Bidder's Bond, Performance Bond, Payment Bond, Certificate of Insurance, Prevailing Pay Rates and DVBE program participation documents are required for this project. Please request bid packages by mailing or faxing your request to Lori Tomita at 707 Third Street Suite 6-325, West Sacramento, CA 95605, FAX (916) 375-4621. Your FAX should include Company Name, Contact Person, Street Address (NO P.O. Box Numbers), phone and FAX numbers.
06/30/04, 07/07/04
CNS- 694557#
NEWS-LEDGER

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S No. GM-72999-C Loan No. 0652707877 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 9/21/2001. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by the duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to satisfy the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. TRUSTOR:ALMER THOMAS MARTIN AND JANICE BALLARD, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS Recorded 10/12/2001 as Instrument No. 2001-0036881-00 in Book , page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Yolo County, California. Date of Sale:7/21/2004 at 12:00 PM Place of Sale: AT THE REAR (NORTH) ENTRANCE TO THE CITY HALL BUILDING, 1110 WEST CAPITOL AVENUE, WEST SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA Property Address is purported to be: 1604 ALABAMA AVENUE WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691 APN #: 058-092-10-1 The total amount secured by said instrument as of the time of initial publication of this notice is $103,307.81, which includes the total amount of the unpaid balance (including accrued and unpaid interest) and reasonable estimated costs, expenses, and advances at the time of initial publication of this notice. Date: June 28, 2004 EXECUTIVE TRUSTEE SERVICES, INC. 15455 SAN FERNANDO MISSION BLVD. SUITE #208 MISSION HILLS, CA 91345 818-361-6998 Dee Ortega TRUSTEE SALE OFFICER ASAP598137 06/30, 07/07, 07/14

***

Injustice is relatively easy to bear; it is justice that hurts.

—H.L. Mencken

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It's the mark of an inexperienced man not to believe in luck.

—Joseph Conrad

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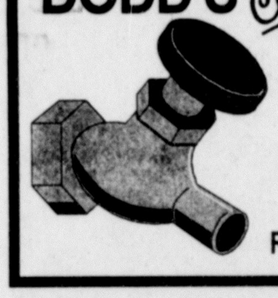
T.S. No. 04-LH0165-A APN: 045-442-37-1 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE **YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT DATED 1/14/2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.** On 7/13/2004, at 9:00 AM, ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES, INC. As the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Notice of Delinquent Assessment, recorded on 1/21/2004 as Document No. 2004-0002498-00 Book Page of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of Yolo County, California, property owned by Michael A. Perez WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state.) at: The rear (North) entrance to the City Hall Building, 1110 West Capital Ave., West Sacramento, California all right, title and interest under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment in the property situated in said County, describing the land therein: A.P.N.: 045-442-37-1 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 2477 Lagoon Lane West Sacramento, CA 95691 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum due under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment, with interest thereon, as provided in said notice, advances, if any, estimated fees, charges, and expenses of the Trustee, to-wit: $2,932.00 Estimated Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The claimant, Touchstone Estates Homeowners Association under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. Date: June 10, 2004 ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES, INC. 2270 DOUGLAS BOULEVARD, #112 ROSEVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95661 For Sales Information Please Call 619-590-1221 Lisa D. Hodgson, Trustee's Sale Officer 06/23/04, 06/30/04, 07/07/04 R-109566

DODD'S Custom PLUMBING



- Plumbing Repairs
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- Gas Lines
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Lic. #831569

RICK DODD, Owner (916) 240-9920

Edward Jones

Chris Bradford
Investment Representative

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Bus. 916-372-3076 Cell 916-215-3027
Fax 866-276-1754
www.edwardjones.com
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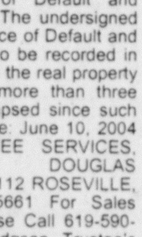

FREE ESTIMATES

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DAN'S SERVICE

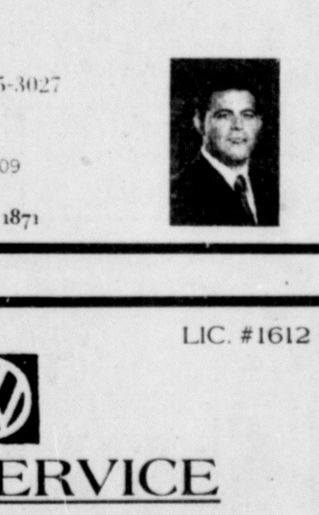
Foreign & Domestic Auto Repair
(916) 373-1808
526-B Galveston
West Sacramento

KEN HOY

News-Ledger Directory of Local Places of Worship

Anna Street Baptist Church Rev. Norman Pollitt, 371-6560 1400 Anna St., W. Sac. **Traditional Worship** Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. http://www.forministry.com/95605ASBC	**Community Lutheran Church** Rev. Marjorie C. Beach, Pastor 920 Drever St., 371-8804 10am Worship/Sun. School Friendly, family, inclusive language. The 'come as you are' church.	**Seventh Day Adventist Church** H. Eugene Miller, Pastor, 334-9315 2860 Jefferson Blvd., W. Sac. PO Box 447, W. Sac. 95691 Sat. Sabbath School 9:30am Worship 11am 372-6670
First Baptist Church Gary Clements, Pastor 1511 Delaware Ave., 371-4061 Morning Wrshp/Sun Schl 9:45am Adult choir 4:45pm Child. Choir 5pm/Prayer Grp 6pm Jr./Sr. High Youth Grp 6:30pm Tues. Nite Bible Study 7pm Wed. Nite Akawana (K-6) 6:30 Thurs. Nite Quilting 7pm	**Trinity Presbyterian Church** 1500 Park Blvd., W. Sac. Rev. Steve Whitney (916) 371-5875 Service: Sunday at 10 a.m. including children's programs	**Holy Cross Catholic Church** 1321 Anna St. near Todhunter 371-1211 Rev. Chad Puthoff, SDS Sat. Vigil 5pm (English) Sun. 9 (English) Noon & 7pm (Spanish) Mon. 8:30am, Tues-Wed 7am, Thurs. 6:45 (Spanish) Fri. 8:30am
First Southern Baptist Church Rev. Gregory W. Kirk Sun. School 9:30am Sun. Worship 11am, 6:30pm Wed. 6:30pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 2124 Michigan Blvd. 371-2111	**SouthPort Community Church** Pastor Bruce Maier Celebration Worship Sunday 10:30 a.m. KidLand during service Youth & Small Group Ministry for All Ages. 2568 Industrial Blvd. 372-7818 ww.southportcommunity.com	**Westside Covenant Church** Worship Services at Collings Teen Center 1541 Merkley Ave. Sundays 10am & 6pm www.westsidecov.org 371-3933
Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church 911 Park Blvd., 371-4814 Father James B. Walsh, Pastor Masses: Sat. Vigil 5:30pm Sunday 9 & 10:30am Weekdays 7am No Mass on Thursday	**New Discovery Christian Church** Meets at Southport Elementary School, 2747 Linden Rd. at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Jerry Green	**Center for Spiritual Awareness** 1020 W. Capitol Ave. 374-9177 Sun. services 9 & 11 am Junior Church, 11 am Multicultural Gospel Choir Wed. 7 pm Peace Prayers *'The last place you should catch hell is in your church"*

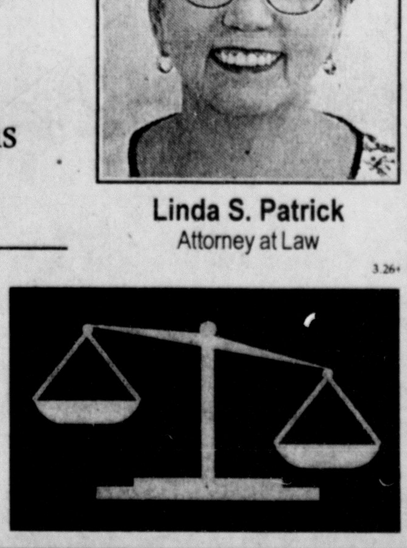
- Estate Planning & Probate
- Bankruptcy
- Corporations & LLCs



Linda S. Patrick
Attorney at Law

3.26+

LINDA S. PATRICK
Law Offices of Guy Gibson, Jr.
1540 Jefferson Blvd.
West Sacramento
CA 95691
(916) 371-5780



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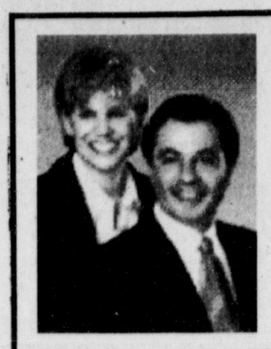
Information on Local Rentals
S&S
Property Management
Bill Shower, Owner
(916) 371-1870 ■ Fax: (916) 371-4929
1049 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 1110, W. Sac. CA 95691
Email: rentals@ssproperty.com


PERRY AND JINA PALAMIDESSI
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Local Scene

Equestrians

The West Sacramento Trail Riders Association is sponsoring a Western Barn Dance and Karaoke Fundraiser on Friday, July 23, from 8 p.m. to midnight. Half the proceeds will support a planned West Sacramento Police Department mounted unit. Tickets are $10, and a significant door prize is planned. For ticket information, call Sierra Hart Automotive, 371-8026, or Home Port Realty, 372-5933.

Democrats

The West Sacramento Democratic Club will meet on Tuesday, July 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the Turner Library's meeting room, 1212 Merkley Avenue. Guest speaker will be Randy Cheek, legislative director of the California State Lottery, on the topic of the lottery and its financial impact on education. The public is welcome. Call 375-1132 for more information on the club.

'Night Out' against crime

On Tues., Aug. 3, from 6-10 p.m., residents of West Sacramento will be asked to lock their doors, turn on their outside lights and spend time outside with their neighbors and local police. Some neighborhoods will be hosting block parties, cookouts and parades as part of the "National Night Out," and may receive visits from representatives of the city's police, fire, recycling and parks departments as well as the C.H.P., radio stations, the armed forces and others. The event is intended to bolster efforts at preventing crime and drug abuse. For more information, call Nora McDowell, 372-2461 ext. 279.

Enterprise Blvd.

The Enterprise Blvd. and West Capitol Avenue exit from eastbound I-80 in West Sacramento will be closed July 12-26 as Caltrans repairs an embankment and repaves the off-ramp. Eastbound traffic will be detoured past the closure to I-80 at Reed, where it will be encouraged to exit and rejoin I-80 westbound to the Enterprise exit.

Parents of Twins

Yolo Parents of Twins Club is hosting its annual summer barbecue on July 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at West Manor Park in Davis. All families with twins and other multiples are invited. Potluck format – call (530) 750-2594 or 756-1047 for information on dishes to bring.

Old cell phones

Recycle your old cell phone by taking it to city hall, 1110 West Capitol Avenue. Also accepted for recycling are your old PDA, pager or two-way radio, as well as old batteries and chargers and accessories. Look for the drop-off box on the first floor near the Finance Department. Cell phones contain hazardous materials such as lead, arsenic and cadmium, which can cause environmental poisoning if sent to landfills.

Republicans

The West Sacramento Republicans will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, July 12, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Turner branch library at 1212 Merkley Avenue. The meeting will include discussion of upcoming precinct walks, the Yolo County Fair G.O.P. booth and other August activities. All interested parties are invited. For more information, call 375-0700 or email westsacramento_gop@sbcglobal.net.

Be a Soroptimist!

Women are invited to join Soroptimist International of West Sacramento, which runs programs that benefit women, children and seniors. The organization has helped out programs such as the county battered women's shelter, Yolo Alternative School, and the John H. Jones Community Clinic, and annually awards scholarships and administers many other community service projects. Visit the group at a "meet and eat" session at Vince's Restaurant at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Dinner is $11.50 per person. For more information, call 372-8691 or 371-7678.

Play Day

Child Care Services of Yolo County announces "Play Day," a free service to babysitters and the children they care for (age 0-5). A collaboration of the City of West Sacramento and Bryte Elementary School, Play Day offers a preschool environment with learning activities. For more information, call Mary or Allison at (530) 757-5695 or 800-723-3001.

Lawn concert

Trinity Presbyterian Church will kick off its "Summer Lawn Concert Series" on Thursday, July 8 at 6:30 p.m., with 'Sammie' award nominee Richard March and his "country-bluegrass music with an urban edge." There will be grilled hot dogs at 6:30 p.m. and music at 7. No charge. Bring friends. 1500 Park Blvd. Call 371-5875 for more information.

Saluting business

The River Cats and West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce will host a "Salute to West Sacramento Business" at Raley Field on July 28, as the River Cats take on the New Orleans Zephyrs. Groups of 10 or more will receive a $2 discount per ticket on bowl seats, participation in a pre-game ceremony to recognize your employees, and an in-game matrix board with the names of participating businesses, as well as a guaranteed raffle prize for one member of your group. You may also support youth in the community – a $200 donation can bring 20 "at risk" kids to the ballpark for a game. Call 376-4645 for information.

Reunion

All classes of the former James Marshall High School in West Sacramento are invited to attend a barbecue and River Cats baseball game at Raley Field on Aug. 17. Tickets must be purchased by Aug. 3. Former 'Wildcats' are invited to help pass the word to other alumni. Visit www.rivercats.com and go to the "ticket window," and look for "Willie the Wildcat." For more information, contact Steve Ruland, 441-0706.

Energy efficiency

Learn how to lower energy bills and stay cooler this summer. Attend a free "energy choices" workshop on Tuesdays, July 20 and Aug. 17, from 7-8 p.m. at the Turner library, 1212 Merkley Ave. Sponsor Valley Energy Efficiency Corp. will distribute a free set of compact fluorescent light bulbs (one per household). For more information, call (530) 753-9337 or visit www.yoloenergy.org.

Lighting help

Improve the quality of your business's lighting at little or no cost through the "Lights Lite" program. A typical small business may receive a lighting retrofit worth $1,100, but $900 or more of the cost is paid by the program. Call (530) 753-9337 or visit www.ci.west-sacramento.ca.us/cityhall/departments/redev/ed/lightslite.pdf.

Healthy living

The Yolo Co. Health Dept. is sponsoring free classes on healthy cooking (with new and easy recipes), and ideas on increasing exercise while having fun. A certificate of completion will be awarded for those who complete the eight-week series of weekly meetings, with new classes starting in mid-June, Monday through Friday. For more information, call Lynn Albrecht, (530) 666-8645 ext. 4161. Classes in English or Spanish.

Bible School

First Baptist Church at 15th and Delaware offers Vacation Bible School from July 12-16, 9 a.m. to noon. Featuring Bible stories, crafts, games, skits, snacks, prizes and a surprise visit from "Jeffrey the Jester." For kids three years old to eighth grade. Call 371-4061.

Skateboard park

A formal grand opening celebration for West Sacramento's new skateboard park is scheduled for Saturday, July 17, at 11 a.m. at the corner of Westacre Road and Evergreen Avenue. There will be a demonstration by Team Velocity. For more information, call 617-4620.

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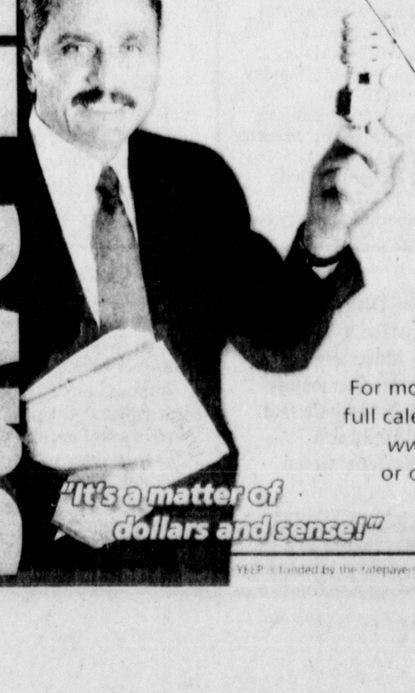
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Tuesdays: July 20 & August 17
Arthur Turner Library
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For more information and a full calendar of events visit www.yoloenergy.org or call 530-753-9337
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Answers to 'Sports Quiz' (p. 3) and Puzzles (p. 8)

Answers

1. Willie McGee of St. Louis in 1990.
2. Tampa Bay's Victor Zambrano.
3. It was the 1987-88 seasons.
4. Clark Kellogg averaged 20.1 points and 10.6 rebounds for the Pacers in 1982-83.
5. Only Tampa Bay did, and the Lightning were eliminated in the Eastern Conference semifinals by New Jersey.
6. Johan Cruyff, Michel Platini and Marco Van Basten.
7. Assault, who won the 1946 Triple Crown, was from Texas.

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Differences: 1. Fence is shorter. 2. Raincoat is different. 3. Leash is shorter.4. Stripe is missing. 5. Sign is missing. 6. Puddle is smaller.

2003–2004 YOLO COUNTY GRAND JURY

FINAL REPORT

A report for the citizens of Yolo County, California

June 30, 2004
Woodland, California

2002–2003 Yolo County Grand Jury Final Report

A Report for the Citizens of Yolo County

GRAND JURY
County of Yolo
P.O. Box 2142
Woodland, CA 95776

June 30, 2004

The Honorable Stephen L. Mock
Advisory Judge to the Yolo County Grand Jury
Yolo County Superior Court
725 Court Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Dear Judge Mock:

On behalf of the Yolo County Grand Jury, it is my distinct honor to present to you and to our fellow citizens of Yolo County our Final Report for 2003-2004.

Shortly after you swore-in this Grand Jury and presented the court's charge in July 2003, we quickly organized ourselves and set about on a course that would enable us to conduct our business professionally and efficiently. We conducted four full-scale investigations and 30 in-depth reviews of local agencies, including all of Yolo County's jails, police departments, and all fire departments and fire districts. In addition, we processed and issued 16 subpoenas and heard and signed six criminal indictments.

Also in the course of our term, we received 29 citizen's complaints on a variety of matters. Each was carefully reviewed, evaluated and an action decided upon. Those not acted upon were generally out of our purview or had more appropriate avenues for remedy. Others do not merit reporting. However, the matters selected for further review and investigation were warranted by the seriousness of the issues involved.

The complexity of managing government presents a challenge for administrators and elected officials. Certainly for the most part, these dedicated public servants are doing an admirable job carrying out their duties, as is expected by the citizens. However, in some cases the Grand Jury found areas of concern and made recommendations that should appropriately address and remedy those matters.

This Grand Jury has given itself unselfishly to its civic responsibility. The culmination of our work is this Final Report, a product of thousands of hours in meetings, interviews, tours, inspections, research, investigations, hearings, and evaluating, decision-making and writing.

We proudly speak with one voice as we submit to you our Final Report.

Sincerely,

Craig Travis
Foreperson

Introduction

The California Constitution requires each county to appoint a Grand Jury to guard the public interest by monitoring local government. The Yolo County Superior Court appoints 19 Grand Jurors each year from a pool of volunteers. The Yolo County Grand Jury is an official, independent body of the Court, not answerable to administrators or the Board of Supervisors.

Unlike grand juries in other states, a California Grand Jury's primary responsibility is to promote honesty and efficiency in government by reviewing the operations and performance of county and city governments, school districts, and special districts. Based on these reviews, the Grand Jury issues a report that may state its findings and recommend changes in the way government conducts its business. Copies are distributed to public officials, county libraries, and the news media. The governing body of any public agency must respond to Grand Jury findings and recommendations within 90 days. An Elective Officer or Agency Head must respond to Grand Jury findings and recommendation within 60 days. (See appendix for responses to the 2002-2003 Grand Jury report.)

The Grand Jury also investigates complaints from private citizens, local government officials, or government employees. Complaints must be submitted in writing and should include any supporting evidence available (you can request a complaint form at your local library or from the Grand Jury at P.O. Box 2142, Woodland, CA 95776). Grand Jurors are sworn to secrecy and, except in rare circumstances, records of their meetings may not be subpoenaed. This secrecy ensures that neither the identity of the complainant nor the testimony offered to the Grand Jury during its investigations will be revealed. The Grand Jury exercises its own discretion in deciding whether to conduct an investigation or to report its findings on citizen complaints. Any juror who has a personal interest in a particular investigation is recused from discussion and voting regarding that matter.

The findings in this document report the conclusions reached by the Grand Jury. Although all the findings are based upon evidence, they are the product of the Grand Jury's independent judgment. Some findings are the opinion of the Grand Jury rather than indisputable statements of fact. All reports included in this document have been approved by at least 12 jurors.

The Grand Jury's final responsibility is to consider criminal indictments, usually based on evidence presented by the District Attorney. On its own initiative, however, the Grand Jury may investigate charges of malfeasance (wrongdoing), misfeasance (a lawful act performed in an unlawful manner), or nonfeasance (failure to perform required duties) by public officials.

To be eligible for the Grand Jury, a citizen must be at least 18 years old, have resided in Yolo County for at least one year, exhibit ordinary intelligence and good character, and possess a working knowledge of English.

Following a screening process by the Court, Grand Jurors are selected by lottery. If you are interested in becoming a Grand Juror, submit your name to the Jury Commissioner, 725 Court Street, Room 303, Woodland, California, 95695, or telephone (530) 666-8600.

The 2003–2004 Yolo County Grand Jury

Mary Ann Aguayo, *Davis*
Elizabeth Amaral, *West Sacramento*
Charles Beauchamp, *Davis*
William Blodgett, *Davis*
R.A. Bo Bohannon, *West Sacramento*
Frances Cervantes, *West Sacramento*
Patricia Dearborn, *Davis*
Sherman Finch, *Davis*
Anne Hawke, *Davis*
Frank S. Joule, *Woodland*
Marlyn Knudson, *Woodland*
Kathleen Luna, *Woodland*
George Sommers, *Davis*
Greg Stovall, *Davis*
Thomas Torres, *Woodland*
Craig Travis, *Davis, Foreperson*
Wendy Twichell-O'Neal, *Davis*
Suey Wong, *El Macero*
Michael York, *Esparto*

The following were sworn-in as grand jurors but were unable to complete their terms: Suisan Weinheimer-Boyle and Joan Wright.

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Yolo County Jails
Yolo County Juvenile Hall
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Responses to the 2002–2003 Grand Jury Report

Investigations

Yolo County Assessor's Office

REASON FOR REVIEW

In response to a complaint alleging that a county appraiser was performing property appraisals on a private-pay basis during county work hours, the Grand Jury interviewed the Yolo County Assessor.

BACKGROUND

The Office of County Assessor is an elected position. The County Assessor oversees a staff of six property appraisers. County appraisers are forbidden from performing appraisals of property on a private basis during work hours. Appraisers maintain a record of the appraisals they make as individual activities rather than hourly units.

All county appraisers are required to sign a Form 700 Conflict of Interest Statement. The statement is kept on file in the County Recorder's office. The Assessor reported receiving a complaint from a member of the community alleging that an appraiser was performing appraisals on a private basis during county work hours. The allegation could not be proven for two reasons: 1) the complainant did not cite a specific time the alleged infraction was to have occurred and 2) appraisers report their work in bulk report rather than with a breakdown of hourly units per assignment. The Assessor maintains that no alleged problems with appraisers have been substantiated regarding private appraisals. As a preventive measure, the Assessor has reminded staff of the conflict of interest requirement.

FINDINGS

1. A Conflict of Interest form is required by state law.
2. All appraisers sign a Conflict of Interest Statement.
3. Conflict of Interest Statements are filed in the Recorder's Office.
4. Appraisers' work is not recorded in an hourly format.
5. The present procedure for tracking work will not identify problems should appraisers engage in conflict of interest activity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

04-01 The Yolo County Assessor should develop a time sheet that reflects the appraisers' hours.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Assessor

SOURCES

Persons Interviewed

Yolo County Assessor

Documents Examined

Form 700 Conflict of Interest Statement

Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

REASON FOR REVIEW

In response to two complaints, the Grand Jury interviewed members of the Board of Directors for the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the General Manager and Assistant General Manager. The complaints alleged a lack of supervision, abuse of overtime, abuse of sick leave, lack of training, lack of fairness in promotional opportunity, inequitable pay increases, water regulation problems, "fudging numbers" in favor of farmers, water canal construction problems, gate maintenance problems, chemical safety problems and poor morale. Additionally, the 2001-02 Grand Jury recommended that subsequent grand juries review the district's operations for the next two years. This is year two of that recommendation. Finally, the 2003-04 Grand Jury is following up on the 2002-03 recommendation that the District be reviewed to "monitor progress toward improved staff morale."

BACKGROUND

Two interviews were conducted. In September 2003, the Grand Jury interviewed the General Manager and the Assistant General Manager. A follow-up interview was conducted in January 2004 with the General Manager and the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors serves as the governing body for the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (YCFC&WCD). The Board is a voluntary body, appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Each Board member serves a four year term. The Board of Directors oversees its own budget, setting water rates, hiring management, determining salary rates and other expenses. The Board works closely with management to set policy and approve actions, such as contracts.

The General Manager was hired by the YCFC &WCD in July 2003. Prior to working for the Water District he worked with the Kings River Water Association overseeing 28 water districts in Fresno, Tulare and Kings Counties. He was named Conservationist of the Year, holds a degree in engineering, and is experienced in using electronic databases for water-related records, including accounting. Upon taking the position of General Manager he began holding regular meetings to clarify expectations and establish procedures that will best serve the water district and employees. He now meets regularly with upper management and has an open door policy for all employees.

The District has an in-house safety officer and plans to update the safety plan. Safety meetings are held periodically and the Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) provides a newsletter for all employees, which contains safety information. Employee injuries are reported to supervisors or to the office.

The District has implemented a training program that allows reimbursement for education and/or training that is job related. Job opportunities are posted both internally and externally. The District plans to implement an education requirement for entry level employment. The District is auditing job positions to insure better uniformity and improve accountability. By formalizing the employment process, the District seeks to make the process for employment and promotion more fair. The four supervisors, the Assistant Manager and General Manager are qualified for management by seniority, experience, training or education. Salary differences are based on years of service and job title.

A laptop computer system is used to document water usage and record billings. The District bills users for the water. The system has been phased in and all reports indicate satisfaction from users and overall improvement in the system.

The Board tours the facilities annually. The Board has an in-house engineer and an outside analyst to help identify infrastructure problems and solutions. Among the challenges facing the District is funding for general maintenance of canals and equipment and the District is looking into applying for grants.

A supervisor is assigned the responsibility for developing the maintenance program for weed abatement and the use of herbicides is controlled by the County Agriculture Office. The District has two licensed weed abatement applicators on staff and they attend on-going training

to maintain licensing.

The General Manager is aware of past morale problems but there is no documented evidence that poor morale is producing high employee turnover. He believes improved communication and fair treatment of employees will improve morale. The Board has opportunity to speak with employees because several members of the Board are farmers and have occasion to speak with YCFC&WCD employees in the course of farming. The Board believes that the General Manager's expertise and professionalism as a manager has improved the morale situation. The General Manager updated operations, gives employees more responsibility and provides consistent treatment among employees. The Board wants their process of dealing with issues to be transparent and they invite feedback from users of the District's water services.

FINDINGS

6. There exists a hierarchy of supervision beginning from supervisors to upper management to the Board of Directors.
7. Promotions have been given to employees with experience and/or expertise and the Grand Jury did not find a lack of fairness in job promotions or salary.
8. Training is available and sometimes required.
9. Improvement of morale is being addressed through management practices and review of policies.
10. The Ditchtender's Handbook governs water regulation and the computer system records water usage.
11. The District Board of Directors selected a new General Manager who has both skill and demonstrated success in supervision and team building.
12. None of the allegations involving "fudging of numbers," abuse of overtime, abuse of sick leave, or safety issues was substantiated.

RECOMMENDATIONS

04-02 Set a schedule for regular, on-going safety training.

RESPONDENTS

Board of Directors, Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District: Recommendation 04-02

SOURCES

Persons Interviewed

The General Manager
The Assistant General Manager
The Board of Directors

Documents Examined

Confidential Employee Data
- Years of employment
- Job title
- Salary

Ditchtenders Handbook
Employee Handbook
Water Management Plan (Draft) 1999
Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District newsletter, "Watermark: News for Water Users", Summer 2003
Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Rules and Regulations (amended 1999)

Yolo County Housing Authority

REASON FOR REVIEW

In response to repeated citizen complaints regarding the Yolo County Housing Authority (Housing Authority) Executive Director's personnel and management practices, as well as Housing Authority residents' complaints of intimidation and verbal abuse, the Grand Jury initiated an investigation. Similar complaints were submitted to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors (BOS), the Housing Authority Commissioners, the Teamsters Union and others. The complaints culminated in citizens voicing their complaints to the BOS during the public comment portion of mid-year meetings. In view of the BOS's February 17, 2004 adoption of a resolution to fully address the issues raised and their adoption of a number of recommendations (see below), the Grand Jury elected not to investigate further.

BACKGROUND

The Yolo County Housing Authority was established in 1950 by the Board of Supervisors to administer public housing for low-income residents. Currently the Housing Authority owns low-income housing in Woodland, Winters, West Sacramento, Knights Landing, Esparto and Yolo; administers migrant labor camps in Madison, Dixon and Davis, as well as the federal Section-8 Housing Program.

Yolo County does not fund any Housing Authority programs but has statutory responsibility for the Housing Authority, which it exercises through the Housing Authority Commissioners who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Housing Authority Commissioners sets policy for the Housing Authority, appoints and evaluates the Executive Director and approves the annual budget.

The current Executive Director was appointed in 1998.

In 1999, the Housing Authority Commissioners established the Yolo Housing Foundation, a non-profit corporation to fund permanent low-income housing in Yolo County.

In early 2003, the Housing Authority employees joined the Teamsters Union.

FINDINGS

13. The Housing Authority and its Executive Director have been the subjects of repeated Grand Jury reviews and/or investigations over the past five years.
14. The nature and scope of the complaints have varied little over the past five years.
15. In February 2004, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, at the request of petitioning complainants resolved (with the avowed cooperation of the Executive Director) to fully and decisively address the issues raised by Housing Authority personnel and residents. The following are among the actions recommended by the County Administration Officer, submitted to and approved by the Board of Supervisors:
    - *A. That the Board refer the allegations of intimidation, manipulation, and verbal abuse by the Housing Authority Executive Director back to the Housing Authority Commission for reconciliation and resolution.*
    - *B. That the Board recommend the Housing Authority adopt the County Value of "Doing Right By People."*
    - *C. That the Board recommend the Housing Authority consider hiring a mediator to resolve the uncertainties, confusion, and conflict between residents and also between residents and the Executive Director.*
    - *D. That the Board recommend the Housing Authority and Executive Director consider filling the vacant Resident Initiative Coordinator position(s) as soon as feasible.*
    - *E. That the Board recommend the Housing Authority and Executive Director support the resident organization called "Hopes and Dreams" in updating and clarifying the organization's by-laws so there is improved understanding about the responsibilities and the authorities of the "Hopes of Dreams" organization, as well as its relationship to the Housing Authority.*
    - *F. That the Board recommend the Housing*

(INVESTIGATIONS: Yolo County Housing Authority continued on page 6)

Authority Executive Director and the Chair of the Housing Authority Commission return to the Board in 1-2 months with a progress report on resolving the current issues and allegations and continue to provide monthly reports until the issues are resolved.

16. It was also recommended that the Board of Supervisors consider strengthening the organizational links between the Yolo County Board of Supervisors and the Housing Authority Commission. Steps suggested that the Board might consider included:

   A. *Review the 1950 Resolution establishing the Yolo County Housing Authority and consider Amendments relating to Housing Authority Commission Performance and Reporting Standards and any other updating necessary.*

   B. *Create a Board of Supervisors' liaison to the Housing Authority.*

   C. *Set up a regular series of meetings via 2x2s between the Board of Supervisors and the Housing Commissioners.*

   D. *That the Board recommend the Housing Authority Commission and Executive Director provide an annual report and presentation to the Board of Supervisors.*

   E. *That the Board consider an annual joint meeting between the Housing Authority Commission and the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.*

RECOMMENDATIONS

04-03 The Board of Supervisors, the Yolo County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and the Executive Director of the Yolo County Housing Authority should review their initial authorizing statutes and subsequent amendments to properly delineate their level of authority, scope of responsibility and oversight functions.

04-04 The Board of Supervisors, the Yolo County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and the Executive Director of Yolo County Housing Authority should decisively address all unresolved issues.

04-05 The Board of Supervisors should schedule progress reports as a quarterly "agenda item" of the Board of Supervisors meetings

04-06 Failing timely and significant resolution of these issues, the Board of Supervisors should consider contracting for an independent consultant's "performance audit" and/or contacting Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide training, model operating plans and program reviews for the Housing Authority.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Board of Supervisors:
Finding 13, 14, 15, 16;
Recommendation 04-03, 04-04, 04-05, 04-06

Yolo County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners:
Finding 13, 14, 15, 16;
Recommendation 04-03, 04-04

Yolo County Housing Authority, Executive Director:
Finding 13, 15;
Recommendation 04-03, 04-04

SOURCES

Grand Jury Reports: 1999-2003
YCHA responses to Grand Jury Reports: 1999-2003
Articles from Daily Democrat: 2003-2004
Articles from Davis Enterprise: 2003-2004
Letters of complaint from employees concerning management practices/personnel issues.
Letters of complaint from residents and/or tenant organizations.
Letters from residents and/or tenant organizations supporting the YCHA Executive Director.
Board of Supervisors meetings: 2003-2004
Board of Supervisor meetings: minutes: 2003-2004

Yolo County Office of Education

REASON FOR REVIEW

This matter came to the Grand Jury's attention through citizen complaints following a series of investigative articles appearing in the *Sacramento Bee* beginning September 2003, (available at www.sacbee.com). The Bee's on-going series identifies alleged improprieties and/or misconduct in the formation and operation of the California Administrative Services Authority (CASA), a joint powers authority, formed by the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) and the Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE). A Grand Jury's term of office is fixed at one year and this report reflects work through the publication deadline of April 30, 2004. The consequences of ongoing work by the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), Social Security Administration (SSA), SCUSD and YCOE are not included in this report because the results are not yet available.

BACKGROUND

CASA is a governmental joint powers authority (JPA) formed in June 2000 to provide administrative services to school districts and to establish a cost neutral, alternative benefits system for nonrepresented classified employees of SCUSD and YCOE. YCOE was recruited by CASA promoters and joined primarily for the CASA benefits program.

The CASA program was designed to provide enhanced benefits to its employees at the same cost that SCUSD and YCOE would otherwise incur if the participating employees were covered under the CalPERS program. The stated purpose of the enhanced benefits was to attract and retain high quality administrators for the member agencies. To participate in CASA, an employee takes an unpaid leave of absence from his or her member agency and simultaneously CASA hires the employee and contracts the employee's services back to his/her former employer. YCOE has 14 contract employees participating in CASA compared with 101 CASA participants who are current or former employees of SCUSD.

Many issues of improprieties and/or misconduct were raised before the SCUSD Board of Education. As a result they commissioned MGT of America (MGT) to conduct a performance audit of CASA. MGT reported its findings to the SCUSD Board of Education in December 2003. The MGT report, containing recommendations and responses are available at www.scusd.edu.

The MGT report raises some serious issues and doubts that the CASA program is indeed "cost neutral." MGT contends that the CASA JPA members, including YCOE, may have additional liabilities to CalPERS and SSA. The MGT audit focused on the impact to SCUSD as it was commissioned by SCUSD. As such, there were few direct findings relating to YCOE. However, the MGT report provides information on processes that are otherwise not readily visible to the public.

CalPERS has, as reported in the Sacramento Bee on March 24, 2004, concluded that CASA employees were de facto employees of the SCUSD, and thus, required to participate in CalPERS. Whether the SSA has, as of the time of the writing of this report, weighed in its determination is unknown. The Sacramento Bee reported on April 2, 2004, that SCUSD elected to withdraw from CASA. This withdrawal will cause the dissolution of the JPA. The fiscal and legal consequences of the withdrawal are, at present, indeterminate.

The Grand Jury investigation consists of interviews, documentation reviews and attending meetings. The Grand Jury also requested a copy of the legal review commissioned by the SCUSD. However, the SCUSD did not make it available to the Grand Jury, citing attorney-client privilege.

FINDINGS

Although the CASA matter before the YCOE was not concluded by press time, this Grand Jury investigation has found patterns of practice that are disturbing.

17. YCOE Board and Superintendent did not perform a due diligence investigation when YCOE joined CASA.

The YCOE Board and the Superintendent relied entirely on the CASA presentation without independent due diligence. On June 5, 2000 a Special Meeting of the YCOE Board was held where the Chief Business Officer from SCUSD gave a presentation on the CASA proposal. At the next regular meeting on June 22, 2000, the YCOE Board approved CASA with little or no discussion. The Superintendent stated that YCOE simply followed SCUSD footsteps as they are a larger school district with more resources and at that time enjoyed a highly favorable public opinion. This is especially troubling to the Grand Jury as the opinions relied upon were rendered by a group listed in documentation as "CASA's Professional Team" that had a financial interest in the formation of CASA.

CASA employees contracted to YCOE are covered under YCOE workers' compensation insurance and health care policies and CASA reimburses YCOE for its share of premium costs for CASA employees. The insurance premium reimbursement structure should have triggered questions as to whether these 14 staff members were really YCOE employees in substance and CASA employees only in form. The Grand Jury found no evidence that the Superintendent or the YCOE Board had questioned this arrangement.

The Superintendent stated that he was surprised to discover that SCUSD and YCOE were the only participants following CASA's formation in June 2000. Neither the Superintendent nor the YCOE Board seemed concerned by the fact that no other school district, despite vigorous promotion and recruitment efforts, elected to join the CASA JPA.

18. There is a lack of oversight accountability at YCOE Board and Superintendent levels.

No evidence of any oversight exercised by the YCOE Board was found. As late as December 2003, a quorum could not be convened to meet a critical deadline to consider and decide whether to stay in CASA or withdraw in accordance to CASA bylaws. This deadline passed and YCOE remained in CASA by default.

There are no reporting policies/procedures, no systems to determine actual cost neutrality, nor any written reviews to determine that CASA operated as represented to the YCOE Board and to the Superintendent. The Grand Jury found no evidence that the YCOE Board or the Superintendent has ever received reports, analysis nor other information relative to YCOE's interests in CASA.

The Grand Jury interviewed a YCOE Board member who disavows Board responsibility of CASA. The member explained that employment issues are within the purview of the YCOE Superintendent and that the Board of a County Office of Education, as compared with a regular school district, has very limited power in these matters. This same position was taken by the Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent. The Grand Jury notes that the Board's approval was required to authorize the YCOE's participation in CASA, and was necessary for the formation of CASA. Once a JPA is formed, the Grand Jury believes there is a corresponding and continuing duty to periodically review the contractual benefits and obligations of the JPA. That a JPA such as CASA could be legally formed under the auspices of a governmental agency and then pass out of public oversight and control is disturbing.

19. Delegated responsibility is concentrated in the YCOE Deputy Superintendent resulting in a conflict of interest.

The YCOE Superintendent delegated all responsibility regarding CASA to the Deputy Superintendent, who was one of four founding members of CASA that received a ten-years' "spiked" service credit as part of retirement benefits not available to any other CASA participant. The decision to move forward on participation in CASA was based on the recommendation of the Deputy Superintendent.

The Deputy Superintendent is the person with the most beneficial CASA package yet also serves as the Chief Business Officer of the YCOE and in that capacity, is in charge of approving payments for CASA employees. Most recently the Deputy Superintendent was appointed temporary YCOE designated representative to CASA following the resignation of the previous representative. Multiple hats worn by the same person creates inherent conflicts of interests that should not be dismissed.

20. The YCOE lacks fiscal procedures and safeguards.

The YCOE Board and the Superintendent approved YCOE's participation in CASA based on representations that CASA's structure was acceptable to CalPERS and the SSA, and that participation would be cost neutral, yet the Grand Jury found no records of any periodic review of program performance.

In their written response to the Grand Jury inquiry regarding YCOE operational procedures and internal controls for the payment of invoices, the YCOE stated that there are no current written desk procedures governing the payment of accounts payable. The Deputy Superintendent further explained that YCOE is currently in the process of developing an accounts payable manual.

The MGT report stated that YCOE paid $121,000 in "indirect charges." The Deputy Superintendent explained that these funds were incorrectly booked as "indirect charges" rather than a cash advance to pre-pay up to three months of payroll costs, and that those funds have since been returned to YCOE. These cash advances benefitted CASA by giving it funds to use for its general operations. The Grand Jury believes the prepayment of payroll is an unsound business practice and constitutes a breach of fiduciary duty because it denied YCOE the opportunity to generate interest income for YCOE's benefit.

21. The YCOE designated representative on the CASA Board did not represent YCOE interests.

The CASA Bylaws provides that YCOE has the right to designate one of the three CASA Board members, referred to as "designated representatives." SCUSD had the right to designate the other two. The YCOE Superintendent admits never having met the first YCOE designated representative and only met the second representative after he resigned. As noted previously, the Deputy Superintendent is temporarily filling the position of the YCOE designated representative.

There is no written job description, minimum qualifications, duties or responsibilities prescribed or required by YCOE to serve as the designated representative. In fact, the Superintendent considered the selection and appointment of the designated representative as ministerial and delegated the responsibility to the Deputy Superintendent. The Grand Jury was surprised when the second representative, selected by the Deputy Superintendent, in defense of CASA at the Special Meeting of the SCUSD Board of Education on December 16, 2003 stated that, "We have an obligation when I sit on the CASA Board as a representative of the Yolo County Office; I have an obligation not to protect the interests of the Yolo County Office, although

(INVESTIGATIONS: Yolo County Office of Education continued on page 8)

that's the temptation, the law is very clear that my obligation is to protect the interests of the people that are retired." The YCOE Board and the Superintendent should have required its CASA representative to protect YCOE's interests as a condition to appointment to the position.

During an interview in February 2004, the Deputy Superintendent explained her responsibilities as the temporary designated representative, and concurred with the prior representative, stating that although YCOE has a representative on the CASA board, once you agree to become a CASA board member you are "required to represent the participants of the CASA plan and what is in their best interest," basing this priority duty to CASA to a legal opinion from a CASA pension attorney. The Deputy Superintendent acknowledges that there may be times when the interests of CASA and its participants, and the interests of YCOE may be in conflict. It does not appear to the Grand Jury that anyone is watching out for YCOE's interests.

YCOE's participation in the CASA JPA caused governmental functions normally subject to public scrutiny and accountability to be hidden. CASA and its management do not answer to the public and the former YCOE designated representative stated that the duty of the designated representative is given to CASA, not YCOE.

22. YCOE Board and Superintendent delayed taking necessary actions when the press revealed problems with CASA.

As late as December 30, 2003, the YCOE Board was unable to convene a quorum to consider CASA related issues. As of March 2004, the YCOE had not engaged independent counsel. According to an April 6, 2004 article in the Woodland Daily Democrat the Superintendent engaged a pension litigation attorney to begin dismantling the pension plan. The consequences of these delays are yet to be determined.

As late as February 2004, YCOE had not determined how much YCOE potentially owed to CalPERS and SSA. MGT had calculated that SCUSD might be liable for approximately $6.4 million. Based on its 14 to 101 ratio of participants, the Superintendent guessed that the YCOE's potential liability would be about 1/12th, making YCOE's potential amount to be over $500,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS

04-07 The Yolo County Board of Supervisors should immediately authorize resources and personnel to the Yolo County Auditor-Controller to perform a review of financial and administrative controls and practices at the YCOE. This review should be coordinated with other agencies who may institute similar audits so as not to be duplicative. Once completed, the Board of Supervisors should consider recommendations, take appropriate action, monitor implementation of recommended action and make this information public.

04-08 The YCOE Superintendent should submit a written status report by September 30, 2004 to the YCOE Board of Education detailing all inquiries or communications with CalPERS, the SSA, and/or any other governmental authorities, including the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, regarding YCOE's involvement in CASA. Subsequently, a status report should be made no less frequently than every calendar quarter, advising of all developments, changes in personnel or operations, and/or remedies taken related to this matter. The YCOE Superintendent should also include in this quarterly status report all costs, charges, penalties, or claims incurred or settlements reached relating to this matter.

04-09 The YCOE Superintendent should also assess and report to the Board of Education how these additional costs, if any, may impact the YCOE's budget, identifying programs and/or staffing positions affected thereby and include this information in the quarterly report recommended in above item 04-08. These reports should be made available to the public by the YCOE Board of Education and a copy mailed to the Yolo County Grand Jury.

04-10 The YCOE Board should develop, and make public, policies to monitor on-going contractual obligations to assure compliance with objectives established at the time the contract is entered. The YCOE Board should review all YCOE current contracts wherein the Board's concurrence or approval was required to assess whether the contract objectives are being met.

04-11 The YCOE should, without delay, seek appropriate legal advice relative to their CASA obligations, options and liability.

04-12 The 2004-2005 Grand Jury should monitor this matter to its conclusion and investigate further as it deems advisable.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Board of Supervisors:
Recommendation 04-07
YCOE Board:
Finding 17, 18, 20, 21, and 22;
Recommendation 04-10, 04-11
YCOE Superintendent:
Finding 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22;
Recommendation 04-08, 04-09, 04-10, 04-11

SOURCES

Persons Interviewed

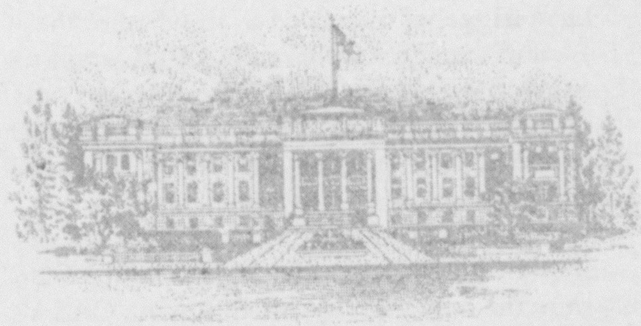
YCOE Superintendent
Deputy Superintendent
Member of the YCOE Board
A former YCOE designated representative to CASA

Documents Examined

Newspaper coverage
MGT report
CASA promotion materials
CASA formation documents including:
The Joint Powers Agreement and by-laws
Operating Agreement between CASA and YCOE
CASA audit reports
CASA employee handbook
CASA minutes
YCOE Board minutes

Meetings Attended

December 16, 2003 Special Meeting of the SCUSD when the MGT report was presented.



Reviews

Yolo County Animal Control

REASON FOR REVIEW

The California Penal Code instructs the Grand Jury to review and inspect the jails and all related facilities annually.

BACKGROUND

The Grand Jury conducted a tour of the Animal Services Section on March 19, 2004. The Animal Services Section, under the supervision of the Chief Animal Control Officer, operates the county's animal shelter and provides animal control services. Animal Services falls under the direction of the sheriff's office and consists of one Chief Animal Control Officer, nine field officers and two veterinary technicians. The program is supported primarily through service contracts with the incorporated cities, dog license fees and private donations.

Animal Services Section operates at a small facility located on Gibson Road in Woodland. The recent addition of the T.S. and K.D. Glide Annex, funded through a private donation from the Glide Foundation, increased the facility's capacity and included medical facilities for housed felines and other small animals.

Approximately eight to ten thousand animals are handled annually by Animal Services. Animals may come to the facility either through voluntary surrender, seizure or as a stray capture. The night deposit may be used during non-business hours for surrender of an animal and is a secure area, which provides the animal with shelter, food, water and blankets. Upon arrival animals are bathed, vaccinated, treated for worms and/or fleas, and provided with veterinary care if necessary. If Animals Services has difficulty finding a home for an animal, staff will consider other alternatives such as service training e.g. law enforcement canine, guide dogs, etc. In addition, rescue societies and foster homes are contacted to help alleviate overcrowding.

The shelter has separate and distinct areas to accommodate cats, dogs, farm animals and wildlife. Dogs are housed in two separate areas: the main area is open for public to view animals eligible for adoption and a separate area is used to house both stray and quarantined animals. Quarantined animals are either ill or have demonstrated aggressive behavior. Stray pets may be claimed by the owner within eight days upon arrival; if unclaimed the animal becomes county property. Strays will be kept as long as there is room and on occasion, adoptive quarters may be used for stray overflow in which case the cages will indicate the animal is not adoptable. All cages are cleaned daily, including weekends, and are maintained throughout the day. In addition to the kennel area, there are animal runs and interview rooms. Both areas allow prospective owners to interact with the animals prior to adoption to ensure proper placement in a home. There is a representative from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) on location to assist both staff and families with the adoption process as well as update the agency's website.

Animal Services currently contracts with a local veterinarian; however, the addition of a veterinarian on staff is being considered. This would allow for immediate care and on-sight monitoring of the animals; but additional staffing is subject to budget constraints. At this time, Animal Services has two veterinary technicians on staff and are in the process of modifying an area to serve as a recovery room which will allow the animals a quiet, secluded area to recover from surgery.

Animal control officers have the power to search, seize and arrest and are required to complete training at the Humane Academy as well as to obtain firearm certification. In addition, officers may respond to requests to provide emergency services and transport from other agencies such as the Fire Department, that may not be equipped to move animals. The Animal Services Section not only provides shelter for stray and neglected animals, it facilitates pet adoptions, inspects kennels, picks up loose, stray or contained animals, responds to animal bites and attacks, rents traps, and provides welfare checks on animals.

FINDINGS

23. The facility was clean and the animals were well cared for.
24. The staff demonstrates concern for the well being of all the animals and exhausts all possible avenues to ensure animals are placed in the appropriate home or work environment to avoid euthanasia.
25. Overpopulation, limited space and inadequate funding prove to be an on-going problem for Animal Services.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None

SOURCES:

Chief Animal Control Officer
On-duty Sergeant
On-duty Officer

Yolo County Coroner

REASON FOR REVIEW

The California Penal Code authorizes the Grand Jury to review and inspect the jails and all related facilities annually.

BACKGROUND

A tour of the Coroner's Office was conducted on March 8, 2004. The office, under the supervision of the Supervising Deputy Coroner, investigates all sudden, violent or suspicious deaths.

FINDINGS

26. The office currently has a staff of 10 employees consisting of four investigators, four interns, one supervisor and one clerical support. Two staff members are certified: one, a Registered Diplomat and one, a Board Certified Fellow with the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators. The four interns rotate shifts so that only one intern is working each day. The duration of the student internships is one year; however, the office has the option of offering an invitation for qualified interns to extend their tenure to two years.
27. Although staffing levels have remained fixed and workload has steadily increased, the turnover rate is very low. Vacancies are infrequent and the hiring process for both staff and interns is very competitive. The most recent opening yielded approximately 180 applications.
28. All investigators are peace officers and receive training in PC 832 (Arrests, Search & Seizure and Firearms), Coroner's Academy, Homicide Investigation, Fingerprint Identification and Blood Spatter Analysis.
29. The total number of coroner death investigations in the past 10 years has increased from 456 to 736 annually which represents a 61% increase. Although this is a substantial increase in workload, it should be noted that requisite forensic procedures declined by 36% during this same time period. Staff attributes the decline to thorough and detailed investigations as well as advanced training.
30. This year it is estimated that the caseload

(REVIEWS: Yolo County Coroner continued on page 10)

will approach 800 investigations and approximately 12.5% will require a forensic autopsy.

31. All forensic examinations are performed by board certified forensic pathologists.
32. There are 12 certified pathologists in the state of California and four work with the county.
33. The Coroner's Office, faced with the challenge of an escalating workload with static staffing levels, has proven resourceful and efficient in their daily operations.

RECOMMENDATION

04-13 The Coroner's Office displays consummate professionalism and should be commended for its efforts.

RESPONDENTS

The Board of Supervisors

SOURCES

Supervising Deputy Coroner
Deputy Coroner

Yolo County Fire Departments and Districts

REASON FOR REVIEW

As part of our duty as Grand Jurors, a review of the following local city fire departments and rural fire protection districts was conducted: Capay Fire Protection District, Clarksburg Fire Protection District, Davis City Fire Department, Dunnigan Fire Protection District, Elkhorn Fire Protection District, Esparto Fire Protection District, Knights Landing Fire Protection District, Madison Fire Protection District, No-Mans Land Fire Protection District, West Plainfield Fire Protection District, West Sacramento City Fire Department, Willow Oak Fire Protection District, Winters Fire Protection District, Woodland City Fire Department, Yolo Fire Protection District and Zamora Fire Protection District.

BACKGROUND

The differences among fire departments/districts stem from precedent and available resources to meet the needs of their respective communities. Most of the fire districts are classified as "dependent districts," meaning that the Fire District Commissioners are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. In No-Mans Land Fire Protection District, the Board of Supervisors serves as the Fire District Commissioners. The Yolo Fire Protection District is not a dependent district and their commissioners are chosen through the election process. In most of the fire districts in Yolo County, the fire chief is elected by the volunteer firefighters except in Yolo, where the fire chief is appointed by the commissioners. In Madison, the volunteer firefighters submit their choice for fire chief to the commissioners. In the cities of Davis and West Sacramento, the fire chief is chosen by the City Manager.

None of the fire districts interviewed reported any concerns or complaints about the response time to fires and emergencies. The average response time for fire departments ranged from 4 to 10 minutes. Firefighting activities include answering calls for structural fires, medical calls, automobile accidents, and various hazardous conditions, such as chemical spills. All of the fire departments and districts have formed agreements, either a Mutual Aid Pact or Automatic Agreement with other cities to provide mutual assistance. In addition, there is a state wide mutual aid pact.

Recruitment and retention of rural fire fighters varies by fire district. While all districts continue to provide excellent fire protection in large part due to the ingenuity and resourcefulness of the volunteer firefighters, it is becoming more difficult to maintain volunteer levels in many of the rural communities. Some fire districts have third generation fire fighters serving their local fire district but other districts, such as West Plainfield, must recruit volunteers who live outside the district. The No-Mans Land Rural Fire Protection District was disbanded in June 2002 and the Yolo County Board of Supervisors serve as the Board of Directors for the District. The Davis Fire Department provides fire protection services for No-Mans land.

Funding issues are a common concern among fire districts. Worker's Compensation and other insurance costs continue to rise, taking a bigger chunk of the districts' annual budget, which in turn takes away from needed capitol improvements. Fire districts bear the costs resulting from service calls for accidents or grass and vegetation fires unless the cost can be billed to the individual or the individual's insurer. Maintaining and updating of equipment is costly though the fire districts defray the costs by providing basic maintenance themselves. The fire districts are seeking grants to help pay for the costs of replacing equipment, but writing grants is time-consuming and the districts do not have full time grant writers.

Rural fire districts receive a portion of property tax assessment funds and some receive additional allocations from special assessments or other sources. City fire departments are funded mainly from the general fund. Fire departments and districts are audited regularly. Beyond the value of having fire districts protect property and provide emergency aid, fire districts serve their communities in other ways as well. Fund raisers for various community needs are a common thread of social service provided by local fire districts. Steak frys, pancake breakfasts, and bean feeds, have all been hosted by fire districts. "Filling the Boot" for community needs is another way fire districts give back for the betterment of Yolo County. Yolo County is fortunate to have the dedicated citizen volunteers and professional fire fighters that provide the needed service to all citizens of the County.

FINDINGS

34. All but three fire districts are comprised of volunteer firefighters.
35. Willow Oak Fire Protection District has two fulltime firefighters, along with volunteer firefighters.
36. Davis, West Sacramento and Woodland Fire Departments employ fulltime firefighters.
37. All fire districts have the necessary equipment to fight fires and provide emergency services.
38. Fire fighting equipment is replaced either by the purchase of new equipment, the purchase of used equipment or volunteers build the equipment, such as outfitting trucks for firefighting.
39. 911 calls from cell phones present an inherent problem because cell phone calls do not provide the location of the call.

RECOMMENDATION

04-14 The Yolo County Board of Supervisors should support the use of Development Impact Fees to maintain fire services.

04-15 The Yolo County Board of Supervisors should provide additional resources as needed to all fire districts for grant writing assistance.

RESPONDENTS

The Board of Supervisors

SOURCES

Persons Interviewed

Fire Chief for Capay Fire Protection District
Fire Chief for City of Davis Fire Department
Fire Chief for Clarksburg Fire Protection District
Fire Chief for Dunnigan Fire Protection District
Fire Chief for Elkhorn Fire Protection District
Assistant Fire Chief for Elkhorn Fire Protection District
Fire Chief for Esparto Fire Protection District
Secretary for the Esparto Fire Department
Fire Chief for Knights Landing Fire Protection District

Fire Chief for Madison Fire Protection District
Fire Chief for West Plainfield Fire Protection District
Lieutenant for the West Plainfield Fire Department
West Plainfield Board of Commissioners
West Plainfield Volunteer Firefighter
Division Chief for West Sacramento Fire Department
Fire Chief for Willow Oak Fire Protection District
Two fulltime Firefighters from Willow Oak Fire District
Volunteers from Willow Oak Fire District
Fire Chief for Winters Fire Protection District
Fire Chief for Woodland Fire Department
Fire Chief for Yolo Fire Protection District
Fire Chief for Zamora Fire Protection District
Fire Marshall for City of Davis Fire Department
Numerous other volunteers

Yolo County Jails

REASON FOR REVIEW

California Penal Code 919(b) mandates that each year members of the Grand Jury will investigate the conditions and management of public detention facilities and report on its findings. This annual review was conducted to comply with the mandate.

BACKGROUND

The Grand Jury visited this facility in September 2003 and was escorted by a Sheriff's department captain and a correctional officer lieutenant. The facility was built in 1991 and has become overcrowded since then. The jail is used for the detention of persons pending arraignment, during trial and post sentencing. Jail management expressed the need for a new facility to be built because the present jail is overcrowded.

All inmates are evaluated mentally and physically upon arrival. Inmates are clothed, housed, fed and provided medical care as needed. Inmates have access to telephones (collect calls only). The telephone service providers contract with the jail through the bidding process to provide this service. Overcrowding of the facility has continued since 2002. The facility is understaffed due to budget cuts and difficulty hiring new correctional officers. Both of these situations have caused considerable stress on the officers due to the resulting, sometimes mandatory overtime. The overcrowding has resulted in two different remedies:

1. Transferring inmates to neighboring county jails. Some inmates go to Glenn County Jail at a cost to Yolo County of $30 per day or to Colusa County at $47 per day. Other participating counties charge varying rates.
2. Due to a Federal Consent Decree which mandates that inmates not be housed in overcrowded and unsafe conditions, once the county exceeds capacity inmates must be released or transferred to another facility. The decision for early release of prisoners is dictated by the seriousness of the misdemeanor. A lengthy, time-consuming process occupies the jail staff in categorizing inmates for possible release or transfer.

The decision whether to release or transfer inmates is at the sole discretion of the Yolo County Sheriff.

A separate structure, the Cameron Building, is an educational resource center provided for inmates to improve themselves through self study and computer skills. The facility is well run with the available personnel.

FINDINGS

40. At the time of the Grand Jury's visit there were 135 employees at the jail and 82 are correctional officers that work 12 hour shifts.
41. At the time of interviews Yolo County Board of Supervisors had imposed a hiring freeze due to budget limitations. The result was overtime that in some cases was mandatory. In some cases if no correctional officers are available deputies from the Sheriff's department are called to fill in. A deputy sheriff is paid approximately 20% more to do the work of a correctional officer.
42. As a result of Finding #41, morale has been a problem at times.
43. When the jail was constructed, it was located away from other community development, sitting by itself. Today, much development has grown next to it including homes and schools. The development in the area makes the prospect of expanding the jail in its current location less likely to meet with widespread approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

04-16 Currently, an assessment is being conducted to determine the feasibility of conducting a full-scale study about relocating or expanding the current jail. This assessment should be completed as quickly as possible.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Sheriff:
Finding 40, 42

Yolo County Administrative Officer:
Finding 41, 43;
Recommendation 04-16

SOURCES

Yolo County Sheriff
Assistant Sheriff
Correctional Lieutenant
Yolo County Correctional Captain
Yolo County Correctional Sergeant
Correctional Officer
Union Steward

Yolo County Juvenile Hall

REASON FOR REVIEW

The California Penal Code instructs grand juries to conduct annual inspections of the county detention facilities, including Juvenile Hall.

BACKGROUND

A division of the Probation Department, Juvenile Hall is the temporary detention and treatment facility in and for Yolo County for minors who are charged with violation of the law or who have violated conditions of probation.

Members of the Grand Jury toured Yolo County Juvenile Hall on November 11, 2003. The tour was conducted by a supervising detention officer who readily responded to all inquiries concerning current policies and procedures, and provided requested copies of forms currently in use (including Parental Authorization, Intake Health Screening, and a recently revised Rules Infraction Sheet). The tour included all sections of Juvenile Hall with particular attention paid to intake procedures, court appearances, and the practices relative to housing, health care, nutrition, sanitation, education and recreational activities. On-duty staff members and nursing personnel were observed and interviewed. Educational and health care issues were discussed. Three juveniles were privately interviewed.

Additionally, the Grand Jury was provided with copies of the report of the September 2003 Board of Corrections inspection, and information from the County Administrative Office.

Opened in 1976, Juvenile Hall was expanded in 1996. The facility has a Board of Corrections Bed Rated Capacity of 30, however, in consideration of the measures taken to mitigate the crowded living conditions, the Board of Corrections has, since January 2000 deemed "...the facility to be a suitable place for the confinement

(REVIEWS: Yolo County Juvenile Hall continued on page 12)

of minors while crowded." A new 90-bed facility has been in the planning stages for years.

FINDINGS

44. The supervisors and observed staff seemed very knowledgeable, capable, attentive, and caring despite the somber tone and strict discipline imposed on the residents.
45. The members of the Grand Jury were impressed with the demonstrated professionalism.
46. The facility is old and not well designed for its current needs; however, it was very clean and efforts to keep it in reasonable repair were apparent.
47. The facility is overcrowded, with occupancy regularly exceeding 40. A classroom is converted to a futon-furnished sleeping facility each night.
48. Other than concerns about overcrowding, the Board of Corrections' September inspection found the facility in compliance with all applicable codes.
49. Acknowledgedly needed since the late 1990's a new, podular 90-bed Juvenile Hall is well on the way to becoming a reality. Inquiry to the County Administrative Office provided the following information relative to the construction of the new Juvenile Hall (JH):
    A. The Central Services Division of the County Administrative Office has the primary responsibility for all Juvenile Hall construction.
    B. The Manager, Facilities Services and Capital Programs has the responsibility for the project.
    C. The new Juvenile Hall will be constructed in Woodland at the corner of County Road 102 and Gibson Road.
    D. The cost is estimated to be $12.6 million of which, $7.5 million is funded by a grant from the Board of Corrections. The remainder will be funded through the Development Impact Fees.
    E. Lionakis Beaumont Design Group is the architect.
    F. The general contractor is Broward & Sons.
    G. A public ground breaking ceremony was held on March 16, 2004.
    H. The anticipated completion and date of occupancy is July 2005.

RECOMMENDATIONS

04-17 The supervisors and staff should be commended for maintaining a high degree of professionalism and perceived efficiency despite the antiquated and overcrowded conditions.

04-18 All agencies, departments, and involved personnel should exert every effort to assure that the anticipated Juvenile Hall completion and occupancy date is realized, that appropriate facility-specific policies and procedures are developed prior to occupancy, and that a smooth transition is made.

04-19 Juvenile Hall administrators and staff should pay particular attention to maintaining a high degree of facility and equipment maintenance during the final months of occupancy of the present Juvenile Hall.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Juvenile Hall Superintendent:
Finding 46, 47, 48;
Recommendation 04-17, 04-18, 04-19

Chief Probation Officer:
Recommendation 04-17, 04-18, 04-19

Manager, County Administrative Office, Central Services Division:
Recommendation 04-18, 04-19

Yolo County Administrative Officer:
Finding 46, 49;
Recommendation 04-18, 04-19

Yolo County Board of Supervisors:
Recommendation 04-17, 04-18, 04-19

SOURCES

Persons Interviewed

Supervising Officer, Juvenile Hall
Randomly selected Juvenile Hall staff
Three juvenile residents

Documents Examined

Juvenile Hall forms and information sheets
Policy and procedure directives
Board of Corrections' October 2003 Juvenile Hall inspection report
Memo from Manager, County Administrative Services, Central Services Division

Yolo County Police Departments

REASON FOR REVIEW

The Penal code instructs grand juries to inquire annually into the conditions and management of public jails and related functions. The Winters, Woodland, Davis, and West Sacramento Police Departments provide law enforcement services; they also maintain facilities for temporary custody of arrested persons.

Davis Police Department

A tour of the Davis Police Department was conducted on February 4, 2004. The building is 2½ years old with five adult detaining cells and a juvenile cell. The Police Chief was appointed in September 2003. The department has 57 sworn officers including captains and four lieutenants. Davis Police Department deploys and authorizes the use of tasers and batons. Suspects are booked and fingerprinted at the station, then transported to the Yolo County Jail. Booking costs in fiscal year 2002-2003 were $93,349 and as of March 2004, the cost was $71,378.

The Davis Police Department is the only city in Yolo County that operates its own emergency 911 center. A Youth Intervention Specialist works with families on truancy issues and distributes bicycle helmets to children who have no bicycle helmet.

Davis Police Department participates in the Court Liaison Program. The liaisons work with the courts to ensure officers are not called to court unless truly needed. The use of liaisons saved the department $9,954 of on-duty time and $18,396 of overtime during this one year.

West Sacramento Police Department

The West Sacramento Police station is approximately 24,000 square feet. The department is housed in a large building renovated for that use. It has outgrown the original needs due to the growth of the city. Its shared office and parking space make for a crowded environment.

The Chief of Police is on extended medical leave and the department is supervised by the acting chief pending appointment of an interim chief. There are 65 full time sworn officers, including the chief, deputy chief, three lieutenants and eight sergeants. West Sacramento shares two half-time Court Liaison officers.

West Sacramento booking fees were $150,464.80 for 2000-2001. The Acting Chief acknowledged that while, in the past, the State of California reimbursed cities for booking fees, reimbursement of booking fees in the future is a topic of much discussion and uncertainty.

West Sacramento Police Department patrols 23.2 square miles. West Sacramento police will use tasers if necessary. Sometimes the taser is used in conjunction with a baton or pepper spray or with a K-9 unit. According to the Acting Chief, the increased use of the taser corresponds to a decrease in use of the baton and pepper spray. Additionally, the use of the taser corresponds to a lower incidence of injuries related to use of

force situations. During 2003, there was significant decrease in the need to obtain medical clearance for suspects that were booked a the Yolo County Jail as well as a decrease in claims against the city relating to injuries suffered during an arrest. All uses of force situations were reviewed and deemed justified by the department.

Winters Police Department

The station for the Winters Police Department is housed in a former part of the city hall. The station occupies approximately 2,480 square feet. The building is old and a new public safety facility is the city's #1 priority. A public safety facility will be built as funds become available.

The Winters Police Department patrols about 2 ½ square miles. The outlying area is patrolled by the Yolo County Sheriff and the California Highway Patrol. All Winters police officers are issued tasers and batons but there were no incidents involving the taser or baton in 2003.

Winters Police Department pays approximately $10,000 for booking fees per year. The department does not have a court liaison. Winters Police Department has a chief of police, currently on medical leave, two sergeants, five patrol officers, one school resource officer and one civilian employee. The Department is in the process of hiring an officer to fill a vacancy created by the promotion of a patrol officer to sergeant in November 2003.

Woodland Police Department

The Woodland Police Department opened a new facility in March 2004. The new facility has approximately 43,000 square feet for the main building and 11,000 square feet for the service building which serves as a shooting range. Four holding cells in the new facility serve as a temporary holding facility and are used to book and fingerprint the suspects prior to being taken to the county jail.

Woodland Police Department pays approximately $160,000 in booking fees per year to Yolo County. The State of California reimburses cities for all booking fees paid to the county in the prior year. However, the current proposal in Sacramento for the next year would eliminate the reimbursement.

Woodland police officers patrol approximately 12.2 square miles. Woodland Police Department has 64 sworn officers, including all ranks and currently 63 positions are filled. The Chief of Police was appointed 18 months ago. There are 23 non-sworn positions in the classifications of community service officers, crime prevention specialists, crime analysts management analysts and administrative secretary.

Woodland Police Department uses part-time retired police officers as court liaisons. The use of court liaisons instead of fulltime officers results in substantial savings to the department. The court liaisons are not paid by Woodland Police Department. West Sacramento coordinates the program and bills the participating cities. Current figures indicate that during the 2003 fiscal year, using retired police officers saved the city approximately $77,733.

FINDINGS

50. The city police departments are dedicated law enforcement agencies.
51. City police department personnel who were interviewed were cooperative, eager to discuss their jobs and responsibilities and appeared to have a high level of morale.
52. The use of Court Liaison Officers saves money by limiting the amount of overtime required of officers to appear in court.
53. After booking, suspects are transported to the Yolo County Jail.
54. With the exception of the Winters and Woodland Police Departments there still appears to be concern over the time and cost of transporting suspects from the city jail to the county jail.
55. It appears that the method of transporting of suspects to the county jail still needs to be improved because taking an officer off the streets to transport a suspect reduces the effectiveness of that agency during that time period.
56. Though the 2002-03 Grand Jury made a recommendation that a study be made about a shuttle service to transport suspects to the county jail, no written report or study has been produced.
57. If the suspect requires emergency medical care he/she is brought to Woodland Memorial Hospital, Sutter Davis Hospital or in the case of West Sacramento, to the UCD Medical Center in Sacramento.
58. Officers accompanying suspects to the hospital emergency rooms are given admittance priority by hospital staff.
59. There are few complaints about response time to emergency calls.

RECOMMENDATIONS

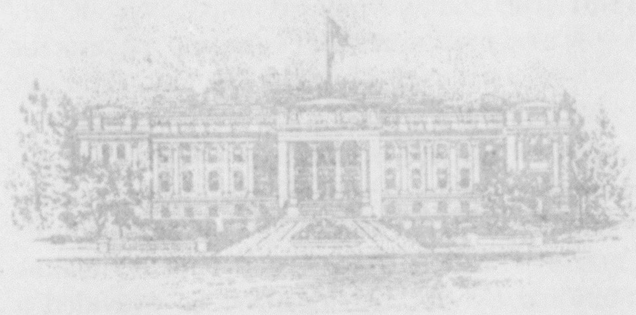
04-20 A formal and written study about a shuttle service to transport suspects to the Yolo County Jail should be undertaken by the Sheriff's office and County Administration Office and submitted to the Board of Supervisors.

04-21 The study recommended above should result in a report available to the public by the end of fiscal year 2004-2005.

04-22 Invite all Yolo County law enforcement departments to participate in the study.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Sheriff:
Finding 52, 55;
Recommendation 04-20, 04-21, 04-22
Yolo County Administrative Officer:
Finding 52, 56;
Recommendation 04-20, 4-21, 04-22
Board of Supervisors:
Recommendation 04-22, 04-22
Davis Chief of Police:
Finding 52, 53, 54, 55, 58, 59
West Sacramento Chief of Police:
Finding 52, 53, 54, 55, 58, 59
Winters Chief of Police:
Finding 52, 53, 55, 57, 58, 59
Woodland Chief of Police:
Finding 52, 53, 55, 57, 58, 59



Appendix

Responses to the 2002-2003 Grand Jury Report

In accordance with §933 (c) of the California Penal Code, the governing body of a public agency or its designated administrator must respond to Grand Jury recommendations within 90 days. Other named respondents must comment within 60 days.

Each recommendation below is followed by an extract of the official response. The complete report is available at public libraries in Yolo County. The complete set of responses is available for public view at the office of the Clerk of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.

Yolo County Sheriff's Department

03-01 The County should establish clear, definitive procedures for evaluating requests for disbursements from this Fund to eliminate improper use.

Auditor-Controller's Response: The recommendation has been implemented. My office has documented the criteria used by the Auditor-Controller staff to review and approve claims submitted by County departments, provided a copy to the Sheriff, and met with him to discuss how the criteria apply to the special funds controlled by him. We also recommended to the Sheriff that the funds designated by the Board of Supervisors be accounted for in a separate budget unit to provide greater visibility. The Sheriff decided not to implement it.

BOS Response: The Board of Supervisors supports the Auditor-Controller's efforts to strengthen internal controls, and will continue to collaborate with the Auditor-Controller and county departments to implement policies and procedures to improve internal controls including criteria for the review and approval of claims for expenditures.

03-02 The Office of the Yolo County Auditor-Controller shall audit the Fund and its records quarterly.

Auditor-Controller's Response: The recommendation has been implemented. We have recommended and the Sheriff has agreed to submit vouchers supporting the expenditures made from previously disbursed funds for audit prior to requesting another disbursement from the special appropriations. We expect to audit the expended funds every three to six months and issue a report on the result of our audit.

03-03 The Yolo county Auditor-Controller shall arrange for an audit of the Fund and its records from January 1999 to the present time and an annual audit of the Fund thereafter by an external independent auditor or by an appropriate agency of the State of California.

Auditor-Controller's Response: The recommendation is not being implemented. Because there is no supporting case law and due to the relatively minor amount of the Sheriff's special appropriation, no state agency would be willing to audit the fund. Additional audit work for the period July 1, 2001 to January 31, 2003 would not add value; the internal control and audit work described in the above responses are adequate to ensure accountability of the Special Fund. We will audit the expenditures for the period January 1, 1999 to June 30, 2001 and from February 1, 2003 to June 30, 2003 and issue a separate report on the results of our audit. We are nearing completion of the audit for the period 2/1/03-6/30/03, but have yet to audit the prior period 1/1/99 -6/30/01.

03-04 The Sheriff shall make restitution to the County General Fund of all amounts expended for purposes not consistent with the spirit of Government Code Sections 29430-29440. They include but are not limited to:

- Political events
- Contributions to political and charitable groups
- Expenditures for flower arrangements, greeting cards, retirements and non-law enforcement-related activities that constitute a gift of public funds (California Constitution of 1879, Article 16, Section 6).

Sheriff's Response: Recommendation partially implemented. Guidelines for expenditures of these funds is subject to interpretation; after careful scrutiny of the records, restitution was made for $345.04 for Truman Club meetings, the Democratic Bean Feed, the Rosenberg September Fest, and flowers for the Sheriff's wife. No other restitutions will be made.

03-05 The Sheriff shall make restitution by 12/31/03 in an amount to be determined by the external independent auditor or appropriate agency of the State of California.

Sheriff's Response: After meeting with Deputy Attorney General Tanaka, County Auditor-Controller Newens and representatives from the Auditor's staff, it was determined that an independent audit would not be conducted.

Yolo County Housing Authority

03-06 The YCHA should contract with a reputable facilitator to provide training in the next six months on:

- Conflict management and team building for the Executive Director and key management staff, and
- Appropriate work place behavior for the entire management and staff.

YCHA Board Response: Recommendations will be implemented during the 2003-2004 fiscal year.

03-07 YCHA employees should use their union representation rather than the Grand Jury to deal with personnel issues.

YCHA Board Response: This recommendation is not addressed to YCHA but to its employees represented by a union. Therefore, it is not appropriate for YCHA to respond. However, if the recommendation is implemented by the employees and their union, there will be more timely resolution of employees' concerns. Employees working through their Union will be more efficient and effective in resolving personnel problems than complaining to an outside agency.

03-08 The YCHA Board of Commissioners should require the Executive Director to set human resource goals for the next year (e.g., reducing the number of employee complaints, reducing/eliminating the use of provisional hiring, increasing the number of personnel problems handled satisfactorily by middle management). A report should be submitted to the Board at the end of Fiscal Year 2003-2004 documenting the extent to which the goals have been met.

YCHA Board Response: The general thrust of this recommendation will be implemented by its annual evaluation of the Executive Director's performance.

03-09 The YCHA Board of Commissioners should present a report to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors at the beginning of FY 2004-2005 on the status of human relations within the agency, as well as evidence of accomplishments in its program-related mission and goals, citing ways in which those accomplishments carry out the stated goals of the Board of Supervisors (see BOS Minutes, 4/15/03).

YCHA Board Response: This recommendation

requires further analysis, and will be a topic of discussion during consultations with the BOS during FY 2003-2004.

Davis Joint Unified School District

03-10 The DJUSD should require each school within the District to review and revise its existing Safe School Plan to comply with the requirements of §35294.2 of the Education Code, including a public adoption process, before December 31, 2003.

DJUSD Response: the District will review and revise all site safety plans, and school site councils will adopt these plans, before 12/31/03.

03-11 The DJUSD should continue to play an active role in community efforts and programs that will discourage unacceptable behavior by students.

DJUSD Response: The District will continue to enforce its disciplinary code of conduct for unacceptable behavior as defined in the Standards for Student Behavior handbook, and will continue internal and community efforts to further promote self-respect and respect toward others. The School Board has adopted a policy to create a School Climate Committee at each school; these committees will first meet in October, 2003.

GRAND JURY Response: The School District's efforts to encourage respect for others and the acceptance of responsibility have been broadly publicized in the local newspapers, school newsletters and public forums. The District's initiation of corrective measures as well as the Board's establishing a half-time position for a coordinator of "school climate activities" are acknowledged and commended. A timely report, following completion of this school year, to the School Board as to each school site's compliance with the review, revision, and adoption of its site-specific Safe School Plan is strongly encouraged.

City of Woodland Department of Public Works

03-12 The City of Woodland should be more aggressive in its monitoring of contractors to ensure that the work is performed in a timely manner, minimizing inconvenience to the public.

City Response: The City of Woodland concurs.

03-13 The City of Woodland should post signs and notices in the local newspaper informing the public of start and completion dates for all construction projects that exceed two months in length.

City Response: the City of Woodland has re-evaluated its policy regarding communication of project status to the public and is publishing notices and posting signs as recommended at construction sites with significant public impact or interest.

Yolo County Jails

03-14 The Board of Supervisors should authorize and the Sheriff's Department should conduct in-house studies to determine:

- Whether it is more cost-effective to house inmates (including foreseeable increases in jail population) in other counties' jails or to increase the capacity of the present facility.
- The merits of providing a secure courtroom and/or a closed-circuit video link between Monroe Center and the courthouse for arraignments.
- Whether waiving the $150 home detention fee for qualified indigent inmates and making home detention to qualified prisoners attending drug treatment programs would pay for itself by reducing the need to pay other counties to house prisoners.
- Whether part-time provisional appointments to fill staff vacancies (e.g. a cook) would be cost–effective compared to paying overtime.

Sheriff's Response: The Sheriff's Department has been and is currently working closely with the County Administrator's Office to determine the most cost efficient method of housing inmates either in county, out of county or home detention. Also being investigated is the need to increase the capacity of the Monroe Center and when the appropriate time for expansion will be. Video arraignment is also being researched to determine the possible impacts on other County departments. Once these impacts are identified, the Sheriff is prepared to move forward with video arraignment. The Sheriff's Department has recently hired three provisional employees and has used extra help employees to reduce vacancies.

BOS Response: The Board concurs with the Sheriff's response in investigating alternatives for managing the jail facility and operations. Staff is currently studying alternatives for housing an increasing jail population, including the construction of an additional jail pod.

03-15 The Sheriff's Department should replace the carpeting and repair the cracks in the cement flooring.

Sheriff's Response: There is a plan for carpet replacement in the Monroe Center. Central Services Division has been actively making improvements to the facility. Both main line housing units have received carpeting during August, 2003.

03-16 The Sheriff's Department should expand or relocate the laundry room and purchase an additional washer and dryer to accommodate the anticipated increase in the use of those services.

Sheriff's Response: As part of the planning for the County's new Juvenile Hall, upgrades of the Sheriff's laundry equipment will be made to keep up with the increase.

Yolo County Juvenile Hall

03-17 The Board of Supervisors should do what is necessary to assure that the new facility is completed in 2004.

BOS Response: The Board concurs with the Grand Jury belief that the new juvenile hall should be opened as quickly as possible. Due to the lengthy period of time needed for environmental review, design, and working with other jurisdictions, it is expected that the new juvenile hall will be open in Spring of 2005. While this delay is unfortunate, it has been beyond the control of the County. The State Board of Corrections has approved the revised opening date.

03-18 A physician should be on call at all times. If a newly admitted youngster is known to be taking medication, the contract physician should be contacted immediately to assure that medications are not interrupted and are properly administered.

Probation Department Response: California Forensic Medical Group provides a licensed physician to be on call twenty-four hours a day. In the event that medication is received for a minor and there is no medical staff on site, the medication will be forwarded to the on-going nurse to be evaluated and dispensed on his/her next visit to the Juvenile Hall. If the minor is in need of his/her medication prior to the return of medical staff, a call will be placed to the Monroe Detention Facility's Medical Unit where they will send a nurse to the Juvenile Hall to evaluate and administer the medication. If they are not able to send a nurse, a call will be placed to the on-call licensed physician.

Supervising Detention Officer's Response: Same as Probation Department response.

Yolo County Coroner

03-19 The Supervising Deputy Coroner and her staff should be commended for the excellence of their management capabilities and public service.

BOS Response: The Board commends and recognizes the outstanding professionalism, consum-

(APPENDIX: Yolo County Coroner continued on page 16)

mate expertise and compassion of the Supervising Deputy Coroner and her staff in providing coroner services. The Board would also like to thank the Sheriff and his management team for their leadership in supporting this vital community service.

Sheriff's Response: The Supervising Deputy Coroner and her staff have been praised verbally and in written form by the Sheriff-Coroner.

City Police Departments

03-20 The Sheriff should study the feasibility of creating and operating a shuttle service that would take custody of prisoners on request from any participating community in Yolo County, and transport them to the Monroe Detention Center, or, if necessary, to a local hospital and then to the Center. The study's conclusions and recommendations should be based on what is most efficient and economical from the perspective of the residents and taxpayers of the entire county rather than just the Sheriff's Department or other single agency.

Sheriff's Response: A 2002 study conducted by the County Administrator's Office and the Yolo County Probation Department, with involvement of the Sheriff's Department, concluded that it would not be cost effective to provide such a service.

03-21 The Sheriff's Department should modify the county's computer-based information/communication system as needed to make it interoperable with the systems installed and operated by the cities of Winters, Woodland, Davis and West Sacramento.

Sheriff's Response: The Sheriff's Department does not currently have a computer-based information/communication system. The Sheriff is currently negotiating purchase of a Records Management System and Correction Management System that will interface with the above described systems and the Sheriff's systems.

03-22 The Sheriff's Department should consult with the administrator of the courts and other appropriate persons to identify proper courses of action needed to extend interoperability to the courts.

Sheriff's Response: Same as response to Recommendation 03-21.

03-23 The Sheriff's Department should also explore interoperability with the state Office of Emergency Services and Yolo County Communications Emergency Service Agency.

Sheriff's Response: Same as response to Recommendation 03-21.

Yolo County Communications Emergency Service Agency

03-24 The county should engage in flood prevention and mitigation efforts of all reasonable kinds, including obtaining needed permits for and participating actively in local and regional flood control programs.

BOS Response: The Board agrees the county and all other public agencies within Yolo County should engage in flood prevention and mitigation efforts of all reasonable kinds, and has directed the County Administrative Officer and the appropriate county department heads to keep the Board informed and to represent the county accordingly.

YCCESA Response: The Executive Director and the JPA Board agree that flood protection is a matter for all public agencies within the County, and YCCESA stands ready to assist and respond to all Yolo County flood issues.

03-25 Color-coded vests should be provided to identify the presence and position of each level of the Incident Command System at emergency scenes.

YCCESA Response: The Executive Director and the JPA Board agree that the use of color-coded vests, used in the County's Emergency Operations Center, helps identify the presence and position of functions in the Incident Command System. We encourage all jurisdictions and disciplines to adopt this practice.

03-26 The county's emergency communications systems should be modified and/or enhanced to achieve interoperability among all emergency services including Sheriff's Department, city police departments, fire departments, health department, and YCCESA.

YCCESA Response: The Executive Director, the JPA Board and the OES Manager agree that interoperability between communications systems enhances response and safety. While various frequencies are used by multiple jurisdictions, interoperability is available and utilized in our central dispatch center in conjunction with established field command systems (e.g. Incident Command System). The Agency will continue to monitor and remain abreast of any evolving radio communication technology which may enhance our current system.

03-27 As a short-term protection from flooding, the earthen berm that now protects YCCESA on three sides should be extended around the fourth side and completed before the next flood season.

YCCESA Response: The Executive Director and the JPA Board agree that the safety of the facility is critical. Sandbags, plastic, water pumps and other protective measures are readily available for use should the need arise. Additionally, an alternate site for 9-1-1 telephone answering is located and maintained in the City of Davis.

03-28 The County should consider the longer-term measure of moving YCCESA's communications systems to higher ground, e.g. the new Woodland Police Department communications complex or the Sheriff's Department communications complex.

BOS Response: The Board disagrees. The Board supports the current YCCESA facilities master planning effort, which is not based on a perceived threat of severe flooding. In April 2002 FEMA designated the area around the YCCESA facility a special flood hazard (AE) area; until a land survey is funded and completed, there is no accurate method of estimating the potential depth of floodwaters in the YCCESA area.

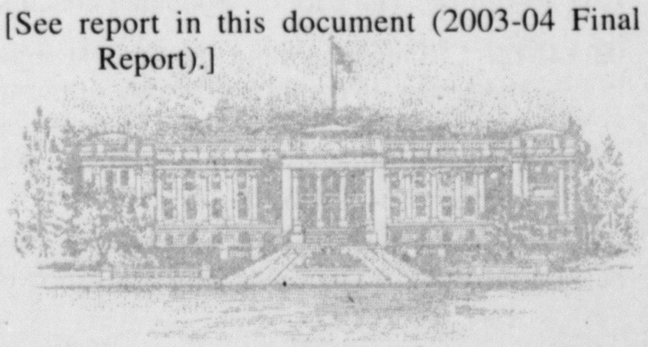
Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

03-29 The District Board of Directors, in selecting a new General Manager, should apply criteria that emphasize skills and demonstrated success in supervision and team building.

District Response: The background of the General Manager newly hired by the District demonstrated strong supervisory skills and the ability to bring diverse groups together for common purposes. He is already implementing changes with the employees.

03-30 The District Board of Directors should identify appropriate personnel management training, requiring supervisors and management to attend.

District Response: The new General Manager supports opportunities for appropriate employee training, and expectations for staff to take advantage of those opportunities. In August, 2003 two supervisors and a senior staff member attended a two-day Human Resources Management Seminar.

03-31 The 2003-04 Grand Jury should review the District to monitor progress toward improved staff morale.

[See report in this document (2003-04 Final Report).]